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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

JANUARY 31, 1994 VOL. 107 NO. 5

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30 The Vancouver Stock Exchange is the first to say that it is no place for the investment of widows and orphans. But even though an inquiry report due this week into the exchange's tawdry history of scams calls for sweeping reforms, some veteran var investors insist that they like things just the way they are.



LETTERS

Dialing for data

The Internet global computer information network is the nerve center of Western democracy at its finest ("Weed world," Cover, Jan. 17). It is knowledge, fast and pure, cost-effective, amplified and accessed by literate and dedicated volunteers. Where is government in this exercise—in taxes and tariffs, slow and shoddy service, transparency and censorship? It is on the outside, desperately seeking entry.

Alice M. Schwartz,
Vancouver



Connecting with a global network, knowledge that is 'fast and pure'

Your "Weed world" cover stories were not come news to many of us involved in providing access to Internet service stations and information foundations. As a founding member of the Victoria FreeNet, I am particularly concerned that our corner of the Internet has adequate and balanced sources of funding (from industry, individuals and governments). I am also wary of some of the proposed changes to our telecommunications infrastructure that would likely spell the end of the FreeNet. The most useful of these proposals is per-minute charges for local calls. Until that gets reversed, we in the FreeNet part of the Internet would like to think of ourselves as a good place to begin exploring.

Daniel MacIsaac,
Victoria

'Anger and shame'

Your special report on the laws people of Divina Index filled me with anger and shame ("The fight of a lifetime," Jan. 17). If Canada has enough money to relocate 2,100 troops in Russia and Croatia, surely it has the money to relocate 500 Jews across the bar.

Abraham Frenkel-Lov,
Jerusalem, Ont.

A good candidate

Your article on the current condition of the federal Conservative party ("Death by a thousand cuts," Canada Dec. 30) left the impression that leadership candidates at last Joe's convention had received letters from the PC Canada kind. As one of those candidates, I want to clarify for the record that I received no letters, nor did I seek one. My campaign cost just over \$200,000, well within the limits the party had laid down. All my bills are paid. No loans are outstanding.

This helped me make a statement about bringing the public peace and respect for those who are the subject of a political campaign.

Patricia Joyner,
Abbotsford, Ont.

Sour slur

Our war resentments and prejudices may have been whipped up when Peter C. Newman filed his column "When Germans turn into neo-Nazis" (Jan. 15). Newman seems uncomfortable about the discussions in German society on racial violence. His approach is disappointing to those of us who are concerned about racism at home and abroad; one does not fight racism on the one hand by using racial slurs on the other.

Marlene Knebel,
Waterloo, Ont.

The other side

The article "Paying for the children of divorce" (Lifestyles, Jan. 10) touches mostly one side of a heart-wrenching issue. There are other sides. In 1990, my wife left me, taking our two children and making access to them extremely difficult for me. In 1998, I was awarded custody of our son. She has custody of our daughter. I must make child support payments to her. In spite of the fact that her household income is greater than mine, she does not have to make support payments to me for my son and I still don't get access to my daughter. Justice? The law is an ass.

Andrew J. English,
Deep River, Ont.

Tourist trap

Barbara Austen's column "I am a tourist in 19th Canada" (Jan. 17) is an accurate statement of how Ontario has changed for the worse. Our positive taxation has destroyed scientific and caused otherwise moral Canadians to justify breaking the law to survive. Cyclists and dogger run very deep nowadays. There is a sense that nothing will change for the better. The distance between Canadians and their governments continues to grow and we will remain in this mental quagmire until elected officials are perceived to be working with, instead of against, ordinary people.

Brian Salvage,
Toronto

In her column "I am a tourist in this Canada" Barbara Austen states: "Show, I couldn't live there for a minute." Our gain is her loss.

Ann E. Ross-Walby,
Edmonton, Ont.

I have high regard for all Canadians who work towards improving this country within the bounds of existing structures. I have no respect, however, for high-profile Canadians who, choosing to live outside the country (from whence they owe effect no positive change), contemptuously condemn this country's governments and advocate that citizens break the law. Barbara Austen refers to herself as a "tourist." Does this mean she has forfeited her Canadian citizenship? If not, would someone please send her the forms?

John Brinkley,
Toronto, Ont.

Letters may be edited for space and clarity. Please avoid vulgar, abusive and obscene language. Write to: Letters to the Editor, Maclean's Magazine, 1177 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M5R 3A7. Or by fax: (416) 593-2200.

"It's just nouveau-foppie, part smart bar, part 50's kitsch. You'll love it."

"C'mon it's 78° outside. Quit channel-surfing and let's go grab some dinner."

"You think that guy at Joe's Steve Crab was the tall, dark and handsome one my horseshoe was talking about?"

"He's always late. Probably knee-deep in some sand trap again."

"I was gonna make believe I missed my flight. But then he said, 'why don't you take a few days since you're down there already.' Believe that guy?"



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OTTAWA'S NEW CIVILITY

NAME-CALLING IS OUT
AS LIBERALS PLEDGE
TO GIVE MPs A BIGGER
ROLE IN PARLIAMENT

Many things were different, but many were not the same as a new Parliament opened last week, 54 days after voters passed harsh judgment on the preceding one. Along with the pomp and the speech from the throne outlining the intentions of the Liberal government came hand-over-hand promises from MPs of all stripes of a new civility, some tough words on national unity and frequent declarations that the country's much-abused political class has learned its lesson. One of the biggest changes was that Parliament itself seems destined to play a larger role in governing the country. The government will introduce rule changes, probably this week, designed to give MPs much more clout in influencing government policy. "Chris reforms are designed to create greater confidence in the House of Commons as the central institution of the Canadian government," Government House Leader Herb Gray said in an interview.

The new determination to expand MPs' power is a sharp break from the practice of the Mulroney and Trudeau years, when one by one Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's view of politics as the push by Reform Leader Preston Manning for a makeover in the way Ottawa works. Chrétien told MPs last week that Canadians need to make Parliament relevant—and he shares that goal. "The Liberals' desire to address the public perception that Ottawa is corrupt and out of touch was primarily expressed in the throne speech, coming over 160 years to promote economic growth. Echoing familiar themes of the party's election campaign, the government promised to appoint an ethics committee to advise ministers and officials, reform the much-criticized lobbying industry and overhaul MPs' generous pension plan. But it is the government's new approach to the Commons that may be most strikingly apparent—in early as this week—when the House debates Canadian peacekeeping commitments and make good on its word. Next week, in another departure, MPs will debate what could be in Finance Minister Paul Martin's budget, which is scheduled to be introduced in the last half of February. The new approach is an attempt, Gray said, to let these influential legislative decisions be seen by the people. "One of the changes we want to make," he added, "is to make the House of Commons, more than it has been under the previous government, the centre of discussion of major issues."

If the Commons is going to become what Chrétien calls "the living room of the nation," the cradle of political life it will have to become a place where politicians can be heard without raising their voice above the jargon and the cacophony. "We want to keep the bickling down,"



Chrétien with
Gov. Gen. Ramon
Dozmatykhin before
throne speech
in larger role

said Gray. Gray has also instructed cabinet ministers to respond in Question Period with concise and substantive answers. Even Deputy Prime Minister Shirley Copp, who cut her political teeth as a member of the Liberals' aggressive "rat pack" of opposition MPs in the mid-1980s, joined the chorus. Bickering is out and substance is in, she said, pointing to the 17-minute throne speech itself as the prime example.

Not only the government was vowing to raise the tone of political debate. Gilbert Peart, elected as the new Commons Speaker, said he would work with all MPs to restore dignity and respect in the House. "The Quebecer Leader Lucien Bouchard said political debate should never 'degenerate into personal confrontation,'" said Mr. Louis Plamondon said that as a brown veteran across the country has come under attack, and one that Bouchard's name has caused embarrassment, said Plamondon. "He says you have to be correct, not shouting." The civility that marked the new Commons' first Question Period on Wednesday was encouraging, Plamondon said. "It was more interesting," he noted. The moderator laid the tone to ask the question, the moderator had the time to answer. "Bickering isn't heard some good things to say about the throne speech and even released their taking all the time allotted to them in Question Period. 'I don't think we will ask questions just to use up our time,'" said Calgary MP Stephen Harper. Deborah Gray, the only Reform MP in the previous Parliament, said her party will back government measures when they deserve support. "We won't just say that because we're the opposition, we're going to oppose everything," she declared.

In his first-ever speech as an MP, Manning experienced in direct democracy, posing a query that had come from an interested citizen through the party's two-machine hotline. Dean Eyrre, an Ottawa physician and Reform supporter, wanted to know if the government knew how many jobs it could have created if it cut taxes by \$2 billion instead of spending that amount on its infrastructure program in 1995. Chrétien asked that total spending was \$4 billion because the province and municipalities are putting in equal shares, and he insisted that the program is a "big success"—and even agrees to Reform's bid to reduce spending. Eyrre was not surprised to find a reporter later that it was the "small political drive."

The troops of the Commons and the desire for a higher standard of decorum was noted early. The usual mix of Quebec, as Bouchard used his maiden speech as Leader of the Opposition to tell Canadians that they are living like that English Canada has ignored the cross of the liberation. "We are on the brink of the shift represented by the decision some two million votes have made to send 54 members here to pave the way for Quebec's new energy," he declared. But comments after presenting a debate that was "courteous though intense," Bouchard positively went after Chrétien, calling the Prime Minister "the very man who led the assault against Quebec in 1981" when Ottawa submitted the Constitution without Quebec's consent. Chrétien later told the Commons that he did not want to get into a "warfare" constitutional debate, preferring instead to deal with economic matters, and left it to Foreign Affairs Minister Andre Charest to take on Bouchard. Quebec's role in the debate was a clear indication that while Hall MP Michael Masse is minister of intergovernmental affairs, Quebec will be Chrétien's



Speaker Paré: "The House is like a huge animal"

'Servant of the House'

Members of Parliament are able to create a unified theory of politics, by which the minister of justice can exist alongside the minister of justice, Common Speaker Gilbert Paré says it will keep him in line. But Paré, an eligible former high-school history teacher and school principal from the Moncton Peninsula community of Welland, Ont., says his power is often exaggerated. "Am I the master of the House?" he asked last week during an interview with *Maclean's*. "No, I am the servant of the House." Sitting before a panel of five on a battery clock in his wood-paneled office behind the Commons chamber, Paré said that there are even times when a judicious Speaker must allow tempers to flare. "The House is like a huge animal," he declared. "Sometimes it lies down. Sometimes you pick it up and it will jump up and bite you, and if it's a wild Speaker who knows when to go and when to let it sleep."

Paré, 58, is the second Speaker elected by his peers to preside over the Commons. It is a job that comes with a comfortable package, plus a salary based solely on allowance of \$134,000, a car and driver and the right to live at the Kingston estate in the Gatineau Hills. The election was a close-fought battle with fellow Liberal MP Jean-Robert Gauthier, who lost seven hours and took six ballots. Gauthier, an Ottawa lawyer and champion of the rights of francophones outside Quebec, had a higher public profile and unambiguously campaigned for the post, as did Montreal Liberal Warren Allmand, who came first. Paré, a 16-year veteran of the House whose nickname in his constituency is "Dobby," refused to campaign, beyond sending a letter to say saying that he was interested in the job. Insiders say that his low-key approach and refusal to stake a position on various issues gradually made the difference, as well as accepted Paré's protestations that he could not be neutral if he was on the campaign trail. Some Reformers also backed him because he is a devout Catholic and an active member of the Commons' regular prayer group. With his election to the post, Paré resigned from the Liberal caucus. But there is nothing he wishes to be neutral about his province. He displays a fierce pride in Canada, and refuses to categorize himself as French or English (in fact, his letter was in English). Paré's father and his mother was a francophone. If that means the 54 MPs from the Bloc Québécois, says Paré, from so be it. "I have to be live in the front of the members of Parliament as individual persons," he says. "I am the Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada, and I am a Canadian."

WILLIAM CAMPBELL/OTTAWA

CANADA

point man on national unity. Ouellet's tone in the debate was as tough as Bouchard's, but Peter Denault, Chretien's communications adviser, was unapologetic: "It's important not to let disunity go unchecked," he said.

Grey's proposed idea changes are in line with the government's three-point plan to enhance parliamentary credibility. The main effect of the changes, he said, will be to give MPs more say. For the first time, the government will allow parliamentary committees to prepare government bills and give them more authority to change bills drafted by the government. Committee members would continue to examine government spending plans but would be given the added power to suggest spending priorities for the following year. MPs will also get a larger role in shaping the budget. The government intends to give the Commons the final say on the budget. The Governor-in-Council will only have the right to veto the budget. The proposals, which have already been discussed with the opposition, will not, however, deal with two critical areas. Rules for the daily Question Period will not be touched. Grey's proposal says that the government should believe in any opposition bill without mere consideration. And the rule changes will say nothing about free votes and votes of confidence in the government. But Grey said the government intends to define votes of confidence more narrowly. That will mean more in which MPs can vote according to their conscience or the wishes of their constituents, rather than being forced to follow the party line.

The attempts at civility were not the only new feature of the new Parliament. The Commons, with 305 regular bills, looked different as well as increased efficiency—with a recent number of new bills and public members. "I look around this House. I see three members of different colors, religions and languages," said Chretien, who chose two Black MPs—Bernice Rapheal-Miller from New Brunswick and David Johnson from Ontario—for the ceremonial task of raising and reading the throne speech. Jack Austin, the Toronto MP who is Chretien's parliamentary secretary, is also Black. Jackie Poir, from Cambridge, Ont., told the Commons that he is the first Cree-born MP, and Garbar, MP of Brampton, Ont., one of two Sikhs in the new Commons, made a short speech marking the birthday of the 10th guru of the Sikh religion.

The political goodwill of the first week will almost certainly evaporate soon. "It's a bit excessively old and new because people are a bit tense," said Reform leader "The government is in a new role and they're asking questions for the first time." But at the same time, MPs are adamant that they do not want the Commons to drift back to the sterile confrontations that marked the last Parliament, and almost all agree that less shouting will not make for rapid debate. "A better means of discussion and more civility doesn't mean that people should be able to express their ideas strongly and directly," commented Grey. "That's what Commons expects."

Tough questions for Bouchard

When it comes to evaluating Lucien Bouchard's abilities as an orator, there is nothing as good as to choose between length and breadth, speeches by the leader of the Bloc Québécois invariably offer both. Bouchard's first speech in the new session of the House of Commons last week, spoken at break pace, ran 55 minutes. By contrast, Guy Carleton, Bouchard's predecessor,

delivered three speeches lasting 37 minutes. It's probably not, however, to compare the two, but to compare the two. Bouchard was only reciting the government's agenda. Bouchard was also reciting several hundred years of history, analyzing current government, explaining the need to build one nation and dismember another, and viewing to end the "terrible discussions," "conspiracy of silence" and "incoherence" that, he said, bedevil Canada.

One of those problems has already been solved. With the cautious Bouchard in the House, silence will never be a problem—although his own personal morality poses a greater challenge. But if the Bloc is to become the positive force in the Commons that it says it

wants to be, its members, including Bouchard, will have to manage around the responsibility of the resolutions of past governments that made up most of their debate speeches. The title of the March 1990 and 1991 resolutions has been determined, and needs no further debate. Most Commons, born to distinction by constitutional talks, would overwhelmingly support any proposal that the Commons, as the new Commons, make a short speech marking the birthday of the 10th guru of the Sikh religion.

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BACKSTAGE OTTAWA

BY ANTHONY WILSON SMITH

putting control of one of its most important institutions in the hands of a foreign central bank (the Bank of Canada). And what would Quebec's trade policies be like? The same sovereignty issue that propelled Quebec's secession for the North American Free Trade Agreement have been notoriously less enthusiastic about eliminating international trade barriers. Would that change?

Even if Quebec leaves Canada, it will still be a member—and neighbors keep a close watch over each other's affairs. What would be the political direction of an independent Quebec?

Bouchard says he plans to tell Americans. During a visit to Washington next month, that it will not be a "Cuba of the north." Surely not, but the principal proponents of independence range from Bouchard—who is in Canada as a member of the Commons—Party of Canada—to an extremist nationalist, who are—or at least claim to be—devoted free-enterprisers. In a fight between right and left over economic policy, who will win? Quebec sovereignty is an issue of identifying leaders by saying they have no new vision to offer. Their own problem may be that they have no new vision. The best way to find out which will prevail is to make them answer some tough questions.

Breaking tradition

Nova Scotia's John Savage is trying to end patronage

I want something for my husband, and if I don't hear of anything from you by the end of next week, I intend to vote for some other party that will give me a vote.

—Lillian Roberts to Nova Scotia Premier Edgar Rhodes

Only eight months after leaving his party to a landslide victory, Nova Scotia's newest premier is leaving a long-established political tradition in its past place, what John Savage is accused of doing would be considered a crime: he may not call political leaders he made to victory with a promise to end patronage. His problems began when he demonstrated that he was usually serious about breaking the tradition. Nova Scotia's tradition of giving the province a generation of political appointees and



Savage: all governments gave jobs to supporters.

replacing them with his own supporters. Last week, the World-Bank physician returned from a working holiday in Cuba to tell grandmothers from his own party members over his determination to get a lid on the pork barrel. "The vast majority of Liberals are committed to the idea that we have to stop the patronage system," he told Macdonald. That the very last

that he is being forced to defend his stance, underlines how he gained patronage in a "Bourgeois" political culture.

The recent tradition within some governments at Savage's Liberal party is perfectly understandable. For governments, supporting the party in power means the difference between moderate comfort and abject poverty in case of the province's rural areas. Savage clearly knew that he was up against when he promised to remove politics from the government's hiring practices during the campaign leading up to last May's provincial election, which gave the Liberals 60 of 55 legislative seats. He said he would not support patronage, but privately many have been grumbling about Savage's campaign against

Last week, his government took steps to defend the criticism. It announced that 108 high-ranking supervisors hired under the patronage system by the previous Tory government will be laid off on April 15, and be replaced by people hired through the civil-service process. And Savage extended a conciliatory hand by offering to meet with Liberal constituency associations disappointed with his policies. "I don't think there is any unreason in the

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Liberal party," explained Savage. "There are people who are expressing concerns and we have to listen to those." The question is whether Savage will pay a political price for his concerns.

More than a century of tradition is stacked against him. During the 1800s, the province's politicians were openly beset by suggestions governing for jobs and favors. And throughout this century, patronage has continued to play a central role in political life. "It has long been said that Nova Scotia politics are 'road politics,'" explains Murray Dick, a retired political science professor who specializes in Nova Scotia politics. "That is no exaggeration. Political allegiance in the province's rural ridings has traditionally been won with the promise of a job on a highway paving crew or a part-time position on a government maintenance project. On the day after they took power, governments would routinely fire entire highway crews and issue new lists of approved contractors."

Political strife seemed to make no difference. During Liberal General Reginald's eight-year rule, from 1970 to 1978, the courts exposed a long-established system of "bribe paying"—whereby liquor companies paid money to the party in power in return for having their products sold at reduced liquor stores. Little changed after John Buchanan's Tories took power in 1978. When the infamous Cape Bretoner accepted a Senate seat 12 years later, he faced a series of money allegations that he had directed government contracts to political friends—although an RCMP investigation later cleared Buchanan of any criminal wrongdoing. Savage, though, appears determined to break the pattern. "The issue of employment in Nova Scotia is going to be controversial," he insists. "It is not going to be party allegiance."

Even Savage realizes that such public scrutiny is little comfort to Liberals going on the wilds of Cape Breton and Glenora County, northeast of Halifax, where jobs of any sort are scarce. "What makes people mad is when they see all those Tory appointees thinking their asses while driving in a highway truck," explained Ron Gillis, president of the Cape Breton Anti Liberal Association.

Savage will have to answer other criticisms when he starts riding around on May 28. Some of the Liberal and BQ blame his policies—which include tax hikes and equal pay for civil servants—for the party's decline in popularity. They have also heard a survey by Halifax polling company Corporate Research Associates, which showed that a Newlander Savage was the least popular premier in Atlantic Canada, with a 28-per-cent approval rating. If the discontent continues, he could have trouble on his hands in Oct. 85. On the Liberal side is now at their financial meeting as whether to hold a leadership review in the unlikely event that the party dumps Savage. Nova Scotia would lose a golden opportunity to fundamentally change the way it chooses politicians.

JOHN DEMONT in Halifax

Canada NOTES

KLEIN'S CUTBACKS

Alberta Premier Ralph Klein announced \$1.5 billion in spending cuts to education, health and social services during an eagerly produced television address to the province. Among other measures, the provincial government intends to reduce the number of school boards from 142 to 60 and to eliminate grants to local governments by 1996. The cuts are part of the government's attempt to eliminate a \$2.4-billion deficit by 1997.

JUDGE UNDER ATTACK

The Quebec Bar Association called for an inquiry into the competence of a female judge who is sentencing a man for repeatedly sodomizing his stepdaughter and said that he nevertheless deserved credit for sparing her virginity. Judge Reynoilde Vermeil sentenced the man to 20 months in jail after he was convicted of sexual assault, sodomy and sexual interference, although the Crown had sought a sentence of four years. Quebec's minister for the status of women, Wolcott Tupper, called Vermeil's ruling "astounding."

THE LEGION AND THE TURBAN

The 17 branches of the Royal Canadian Legion in Prince Edward Island decided to allow people wearing turbans and other religious headgear to enter their buildings. The decision came after several Sikh veterans were denied entry to a Legion bar in Surrey, B.C., following Remembrance Day ceremonies there last November because an Sikh soldier's turban violated a wearing ban on Legions premises. The Legion will debate the issue at its annual meeting in Calgary on May 29.

TOBACCO TAX

Ottawa ruled out cutting tobacco taxes as a way of reducing the flow of cigarette revenues into Canada. The Quebec government had proposed reducing taxes by as much as 50 per cent in order to discourage demand for illegal tobacco, which accounts for an estimated one-third of cigarettes sold in the province. But federal finance department officials Pierre Gosselin said Ottawa will fight tobacco smuggling by enforcing existing laws.

GROUNDING THE CRUISE

The federal government ordered that the listing of a U.S. cruise missile over the Northwest Territories scheduled for this week be delayed pending a parliamentary debate on the 10-year-old program, which allows periodic tests of the air-launched missiles over Canada.



CLOCKING UP DEBT: The "debt clock" maintained by the Vancouver Board of Trade records Canada's national debt passing the \$500 billion mark. The clock shows the debt rising at a rate of \$1,487 a second, \$88,800 a minute or about \$183 million a day. The board installed the clock in December, 1990, when the debt stood at \$396 billion. When it reached half a trillion dollars, businessmen at a so-called "debtors' breakfast" observed a meal of silence.

A litany of mismanagement

Federal Auditor General Denis Desautels took aim in his annual report at a litany of government waste and mismanagement, including a whopping attack on the high pricing ways of federal prize master Brian Mulroney and his ministers. After a two-year fight to get to come to information on the use by cabinet ministers and other VPs of the government's service. Challenger executive jets, Desautels concluded that the annual cost of the fleet is \$64 million—twice the amount reported by the defence department. Other examples of excess and abuse cited by the auditor general.

By March, the government will be owed up to \$800 million in gift premiums from businesses or self-employed Canadians who are delinquent in filing their returns on the goods and services tax. Half a million other Canadians who are registered as GST collectors, but who have not yet filed, owe the government no equal amount. Desautels said many people "are at present taking advantage of the GST in using it as a cash advance."

Between \$120 million and \$220 million is lost annually because of Canada Pension, Plan and Old Age Security benefits paid to ineligible people, including disabled people who have returned to work.

The Canadian International Development Agency wastes much of its \$3-billion annual budget and, in some cases, actually hurt countries it is designed to help, for example by providing food aid to poor countries rather than helping them to increase agricultural production at home.

The \$360-million compensation program for workers in the Newfoundland oil industry wasted millions of dollars paying people who had little connection to the oil industry—possibly including some people who had already

RATTLED AND ROLLED

A powerful earthquake paralyzes Los Angeles

At 4:05 a.m. on Jan. 17, the earth moved—and kept moving for 40 terrifying, eye-opening seconds. Accompanied by a roar that some likened to an exploding bomb, freeways, apartment buildings, and homes in the Los Angeles area crumpled as gutting marks of power. Gas lines ruptured, gas lines that reduced entire city blocks to darkness. Indoors, objects ranging from refrigerators to caskets shot across rooms or exploded in showers of glass fragments. At least 95 people lost their lives in an earthquake that measured 6.8 on the Richter scale and was the most destructive in the city's history. But some local cause for worry: Sheridon Trifunovic, a Canadian-born journalist who lives in Granada Hills, about three kilometers from the quake's epicenter in the San Fernando Valley, joked that it was his second major quake in 12 hours. "I went on the earthquake ride at the Universal Studios theme park on Sunday night. They claimed it was 6.0, but I don't believe it. It was a piece of cake!"

Trifunovic's ironic humor may be the best way to cope with life in southern California, where a triangle of geological fault lines has produced one of the most earthquake-prone regions on the planet. More than 10 million people—1.5 million of them Canadians—live in the Los Angeles area, and most are aware of the threat to their safety. Even so, many appeared shocked by last week's destruction. Official cost estimates ranged up to \$40 billion, making it one of the most expensive natural disasters in U.S. history. President Bill Clinton declared the city a federal disaster area and granted \$65 million in emergency aid. But such measures may prove merely inadequate. The region's vital system of expressways is damaged in so key places in a way substantially in line with the automobile roadblocks face months of chronic traffic jams that will make life a misery and seriously hurt many businesses.

Last week, what a series of aftershocks rumbled through the region, residents were still counting their losses. One of the worst tremors occurred in Northridge, a middle-class community at the quake's epicenter, about 30 km north of downtown Los Angeles. Shaken people died in the collapse of a three-story apartment building in that area; more than 7,800 were injured and at least 30,000 left homeless, at least temporarily. Because insurance premiums for earthquake damage are high in California, an estimated 70 per cent of householders have no coverage for such losses.

Many of the displaced sought shelter in tent cities, or slept on the streets as officials scrambled to provide assistance. Utility services were widely interrupted, leaving 40,000 people without drinking water and 80,000 without electricity. Four days after the quake, federal officials began distributing a total of \$170 million in relief aid. For others, simply getting to work became an enormous concern. Commuters took to the roads in early a 5:30 a.m. in hopes of avoiding traffic snarls. Despite that, it still took many drivers more than four hours to reach their destination. Both the major east-west artery, the Santa Monica Freeway, and a key north-south link, the Golden State expressway, were severed. One of the most spectacular breaks occurred at the intersection of two major highways, Interstate 5 and the Antelope Valley Freeway, which connects the densely populated area northwest of Los Angeles with the city.

Californians are acutely aware that last week's catastrophe was far less powerful than the much-publicized "Big One," a quake that scientists say could measure at least 8.0 on the Richter scale—well destructive power about 15 times greater than last week's tremor. That has many re-examining their commitment to the region. Susan Sheets, 38, has lived in the Los Angeles area all her life, but last week's terror convinced her that it may be time to trade area for safety. But Sheets, who is now considering a move to Idaho, "I would rather be shoveling snow than China and crystal."

Visitors in Los Angeles gained new appreciation for the advantages of home. Tim Katchell, CBC television's vice-president of news, was visiting his brother, film director Ted Katchell. At his new home in the Santa Monica Mountains. Although the house was undamaged, Katchell's nerves were jagged. "It was as though a lion poked us up and shook us," he said after returning to Toronto. "It's cold here, but it's wild!"

Such apprehensions reverberated as far north as British Columbia. Like Los Angeles and San Francisco, Vancouver is located on the so-called Ring of Fire, an unstable circle around the Pacific Ocean in which earthquakes occur frequently. Research by seismologists suggests that the Vancouver area is at risk of a mammoth quake measuring more than 8.0 on the Richter scale. Such a disaster could strike tomorrow—or 200 years from now. Other Canadian cities at risk include Ottawa and Montreal, which could experience quakes of about 6.0, enough to cause serious damage. Last week's terror in Los Angeles painted a graphic picture of just what those words can mean.

PATRICIA CHISHOLM with ANNE GREGOR in Los Angeles

■ Collapsed freeway overpass (above); stunned survivors survey their devastated mobile home community in Santa Clara (right); a street fire rages after a ruptured oil pipeline ignites in San Fernando (left); despite warnings about the "Big One," many were shocked by the destruction



Letter from Los Angeles

Waiting for The Big One

A turquoise and white half-capture juddies mainly shows in a rather dense that renews the blue waters of nearby Silver Lake reservoir. Back and forth the chapper houses, and then, with a disarming smirk, it roars away over the road. Since dawn on Jan. 17, the peaceful view of lake and mountains visible from my backyard deck has taken on a haunting aura of risk and death. Authorities are checking for leaks, earthquakes shake down in well as houses, and the reservoir, nestled in a bowl near downtown Los Angeles, holds millions of gallons of water in its concrete abut.

Chattering darters from the park has become an essential part of life in L.A., like breathing your teeth at the meeting in October: my family watched flames march across the 600-ft-long San Gabriel mountains from my white deck, the fire roared from the sky. Less than two years ago, columns of smoke rose from buildings that were looted and burned as the riots followed the verdict in the Rodney King case. We're now saving water consumption to meet restrictions imposed by drought, rushed into downers as earth tremors rattled the ground and dusted made us unleash dropped chemicals to combat mistletoes of the Nictia, an insect that devastates California's multi-billion-dollar agricultural industry.

Nine years ago, my husband and I packed our little yellow Honda and moved from Ottawa to California. Mya, a breed and aquarist, came of the continent. Hollywood LaLaLand. The beach houses and surf of Malibu. Rolling shoulders with more stars in local restaurants. No more Canadian winter and Pandas.

But somewhere along the way, western California's stage has changed. Strong, drought, fire, floods, mud slides, riots, and war. Catastrophes pile up faster than the wind can disperse. As last fall's fires raged, my daughter, then 8, wanted to know what all disasters affected Tampa, my home town, where I was growing up. Disasters flipped reports that Toronto isn't a disaster, the only calamity that came to mind was Hurricane Hazel—and that storm



A ruined house in Pacific Palisades' backyard disaster

blew through town 60 years ago. She promptly replied that she wanted to move north. I pondered her decision as ashes from Mullins settled on the beach like the next day.

We live in a state of constant readiness for disaster. Outside the door, a large black house packed with emergency supplies—everything including a camping stove we used to cook meals last week during an 85-hour power blackout. Flashlights and comfortable shoes are also close at hand—over the bed, in hallways, bedrooms and cars. Over the years, the thought of parking underground or in the massive concrete structures abutting shopping centers has become less and less attractive. It is better to buck up traffic than to sit in a gridlock under a freeway overpass—which just might collapse the next time a quake strikes.

Like in the corner of the United States not always seen as compromised. Back before California became the Golden State, Mexican settlers, exploring the local Indian tribes, came to the mountains and divided the land into huge ranches. Like changed into the Gold Rush of 1849 brought herds of livestock—and Yankee influence—the northern part of the state. The dream of sudden riches has never died.

Canada are on strangers in these dreams. The city of Orange, Calif., was proudly designed and named in 1882 by two northerners, brothers George and William Chaffey of Kingston, Ont. Hollywood blossomed with the help of Canadians Louis B. Mayer and Mary Pickford. Through the movies, the L.A. spirit spread around the world.

But the dream faded for the 35,000 homeless crammed in city parks and high schools. It has also died for the thousands of thousands of formerly self-made millionaires who, since the recession hit in 1981, have suffered from psychosocial—and for the millions of residents, fearful of crime, who have made barred windows and chain-link fences a common architectural motif. Experts want locals to keep their cars well-maintained at all times. Bunkers have been to install automatic teller machines outside police stations to improve customer service.

Still, for some, the old myth lives. On the day of the quake, its most dangerous stayed home in houses the damage and avoid the next earthquake, a group of tourists stopped at front of Myra's Chinese Theater on Hollywood Boulevard to admire the concrete pillars left by Marilyn Monroe. Three Los Angeles until control—at least on the surface.

As the week wore on, rumors continued to swirl the house, none better described, others strong enough to drive me out of my chair. My wife's safe spot in a nearby corner. Hours after the initial shock rattled everyone out of bed, Canadian guitarist and composer Laura Boyd asked me if I was disappointed by the size of the quake. The question was pecking at my last, first impression, the answer to yes. Yes, many Angelenos had hoped that this terrible earthquake—just like we said that it is a lot more than we saw—would be the massive shock, 8.0 on the Richter scale, that seismologists have long warned us to expect. Now, we must live with the dread that an even greater catastrophe—The Big One—is yet to come.

ANNIE GREGORY in Los Angeles

'The perfect daughter'

A Canadian disciple of David Koresh goes on trial in Texas

She escaped with her life but little else. When Ruth Ellen Riddle leaped from a second-story rooftop last April 19 to avoid the flames engulfing the Branch Davidians compound near Waco, Tex., she left only the clothes she was wearing—a shirt and a pair of pants—and her bling. The rest of her worldly possessions were destroyed in the blaze, which incinerated more than 80 men, women and children, including self-proclaimed messiah David Koresh. But these days, the 30-year-old Canadian woman is looking quite presentable. After a court decision her government agreed to buy new clothes, Riddle's lawyer, Joseph Turner, came to her aid. She now has hair dresses one donated by Turner's mother, another by his sister, and two more by his girlfriend. Missing one of these outfits, an emerald-green blazer with a black-trimmed collar, Riddle walked solemnly into a San Antonio courtroom this month to stand trial for murder, conspiracy and possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime.

The charges against Riddle and 10 other Branch Davidians, all men, arose from the shooting deaths of four federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) agents last Feb. 28 during a hotbed raid on the sprawling 77-acre Branch Davidians compound, known as Branch Agriculture. Most then 75 ATF agents surrounded the complex to serve a warrant for illegal arms possession against Koresh, who taught his disciples that the biblical battle of Armageddon was near and urged them to stockpile weapons. That a few can battle erupted. In addition to the last ATF agents, 10 Koresh followers—members of a fundamentalist offshoot of the Seventh-day Adventist church—died in the fire-fight. Sixteen ATF agents were wounded.

During the subsequent 51-day standoff, Riddle vowed not to surrender until he can plead a book about the Seven Seals referred to in the Book of Revelation. FBI negotiators dismissed that as an excuse and secured the risk of losing. The stalemate ended when the FBI began loading the compound with tear-gas-equipped tanks, according to the government. Koresh and his followers responded by writing fire to the wooden structure. In the pocket of Riddle's pants was also jammed a safety was a computer disk con-



Riddle: Waco fire belated 'a theology of death'

taining Koresh's writings on the First Seal. Riddle, who suffered minor burns and a broken ankle in the incident, spent two days in hospital. Investigations at the time described her merely as a spiritual witness and released her on a personal recognizance bond in a \$60,000 bail. Riddle, who was then the sole wife of a Waco. A decade later, by which time Koresh had replaced Riddle. Riddle gave her daughter at the Waco ranch. Late last March, at the height of the standoff, Gerasim, 17, left the compound with several other women. Although she was never charged, she is expected to testify at the trial about Riddle's upbringing and interest in religion. Like several other survivors, she is believed to be living in Texas with fellow Branch Davidians, some of whom continue to view Koresh as a prophet and are waiting for God to send his appearance.

The prosecution says it will call more than 100 witnesses in the case, which could last as long as two months. In the meantime, a host of other problems with witnesses and delays from talking to reporters. Despite that, Riddle gave her lawyer statements to pass on to the media. It read simply: "The Lord is my father and my God in the neck of my refuge. Psalm 96:23."

Governments, lawyers conceded that all 11 defendants willfully joined Koresh in plotting to kill the ATF officers. And Assistant U.S. Attorney Jay Byrd, the lead prosecutor

in the case, says that the government can prove that each of the defendants was holding a weapon during the ambush. In his opening argument, Byrd told the jury that Koresh preached a "theology of death," emphasizing his followers that "if you want to be his God, you must be willing to kill for God." Byrd added that as well as recruiting ATF agents, they executed two fellow Branch Davidians whom they "put out of their misery" because they were "too wounded to fight."

Defense lawyers counter that their clients never took part in a conspiracy and should not be held responsible for Koresh's actions. They emphasize that the Branch Davidians leader—Turner called him "permeated and delusional"—had instilled such a fear of outsiders in his followers that when the ATF launched its surprise raid, it triggered a violent reaction. Byrd said, "Turner told the court that Riddle herself never fired on the agents. She's a loving and caring person, quiet and shy, never violent," he said, praising her as "the perfect daughter" of his mother and father before her. Riddle, he added, was raised in a religious family and "never heard anything bad."

In fact, it was Riddle's mother, Gladys CRISTAL, who first introduced her to the Branch Davidians. A former Seventh-day Adventist who joined the movement after meeting Branch Davidians missionaries, CRISTAL later ran a vegetarian restaurant near Waco, Ont. In 1982, Riddle joined a religiously populated farm, Loma Ranch, who was then the seat of power. A Waco. A decade later, by which time Koresh had replaced Riddle. CRISTAL gave her daughter at the Waco ranch. Late last March, at the height of the standoff, Gerasim, 17, left the compound with several other women. Although she was never charged, she is expected to testify at the trial about Riddle's upbringing and interest in religion. Like several other survivors, she is believed to be living in Texas with fellow Branch Davidians, some of whom continue to view Koresh as a prophet and are waiting for God to send his appearance.



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SCOTT NEEDLE with DAVID A. PERKINS in San Antonio

Clinton's wounds

The Whitewater affair has damaged his presidency

A Bill Clinton began the second year of his presidency on Jan. 20, the U.S. government and much of the rest of Washington, except for essential services, shut down. The reason was a power shortage, which was a warning of the problems that could be expected in the coming year.

REPORT FROM WASHINGTON

BY CARL HOLLINS

substantial majorities were uncertain about the accusations of the Whitewater allegations, with almost three out of five respondents concluding that Clinton is "truly telling the truth but is hiding something."

Politically, Clinton's plan to press ahead with his, and the people's, agenda may serve to offset the high up shooting of his personal integrity by the Whitewater inquiry, an investigation he requested on Jan. 12 after first receiving demands from Republican opponents. During the following eight days, which brought the Los Angeles earthquake and the deep freeze in Atlantic seaboard states, public attention was further

drawn to the involvement of the President and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in what has become known as the Whitewater affair, a series of questionable and possibly criminal land real estate deals in Arkansas during the 1980s while he was state governor.

The announcement preceded by five days the President's annual state of the union address in Congress in which, according to advance reports, he planned to outline an antitrust program. That initiative, directed mainly against violent crime and firearms, forms part of a broad legislative blueprint for 1994 designed to respond to growing concerns among Americans about personal safety, the high cost of private health care and the loss of jobs. And again that the U.S. government is not alone. Clinton is said to be eager to shift policy aims away from financial stability to words his election-year promises of programs that help people.

Popular support for Clinton's approach, and for the President himself, is reflected in opinion polls. A recent survey on the second week of January indicates that significant majorities of the public favor increased policing of crime, national health insurance and greater economic security—even if those measures require higher taxes. Another survey by The New York Times and CBS News, conducted as Clinton wound up a nine-day European tour in mid-January, indicated that 54 per cent of Americans now approve of his handling of the presidency, up eight points in two months. But the survey also found that

stunt in favor of action against a national epidemic of murder and mayhem. The governors of Virginia and Maryland, bordering Washington, the U.S. murder capital, both are calling for tougher laws against violence and guns. And Clinton, on an address marking Martin Luther King Day on Jan. 17, announced that if the civil rights leader had survived the assassin's bullet that killed him in 1968, he would be alarmed by gun-related violence in America's cities. The President said that he was struck in Europe first, although there is progress in dismantling nuclear weapons. "We can't get guns out of our schools."

In the week of Clinton's painful first anniversary in the White House, the U.S. National Museum of Health and Medicine disclosed a lesson on presidential survival from much more haunting wounds. The exhibit displayed the assassin's bullet that killed president Abraham Lincoln in 1865, along with a few hairs and skull fragments from the fatal head injury, and the bloodied shirt cuffs of an army doctor who performed the autopsy. Two computer terminals flanked the display. The first explained the chaotic 15th-century efforts



A gun shop in Peapack, N.J., calls for action against an epidemic of murder

directed by heavy media coverage of three bizarre cases of violent crime. Lorenza Bobbitt's trial for severing her husband's penis, the arraignment of men accused of trying to drown former killer James Ray and the murder trials of brothers Lyle and Erik Menendez in the political killings of their parents. Even in political Washington, the talk around town dwelt on those stories to the virtual exclusion of Whitewater and the dramatic withdrawal of retired adviser Sally Beyerlein—who accused Republican opponents of spying to smear him—as Clinton's nominee for defense secretary.

The concentration on violent crime, even if generated by the sensational nature of the cases, reinforced a mounting popular senti-

ment in favor of action against a national epidemic of murder and mayhem. The governors of Virginia and Maryland, bordering Washington, the U.S. murder capital, both are calling for tougher laws against violence and guns. And Clinton, on an address marking Martin Luther King Day on Jan. 17, announced that if the civil rights leader had survived the assassin's bullet that killed him in 1968, he would be alarmed by gun-related violence in America's cities. The President said that he was struck in Europe first, although there is progress in dismantling nuclear weapons. "We can't get guns out of our schools."

CRISIS IN JAPAN

Japan's Socialist party, the largest partner in Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's coalition government, voted with the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to defeat a key reform package in the upper house of parliament. Hosokawa's initiative included measures to curb corruption and "nanny politics" by creating single-seat electoral districts and banning political contributions from corporations. To hang on to power, Hosokawa must now negotiate a less sweeping reform package with the LDP, whose four-decade rule ended last year amid a string of corrupt scandals.

SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENT

Six children aged 4 to 12 died in a mortar barrage near their apartment building in Sarajevo, about 100 meters from the Serbian front lines. They were riding on a sidewalk when the mortar shells exploded in the besieged Bosnian capital. Nearly 10,000 people, more than 1,500 of them children, have died in the fighting since the Serbian siege of Sarajevo began in April, 1992.

GOLAN REFERENDUM

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said that he is considering holding a referendum before turning over to Syria all or part of the Golan Heights, a strategic plateau captured by the Jewish state in 1967. Syrian officials say that holding a referendum concerning occupied land would violate international law.

NUKES FOR SALE

The environmental group Greenpeace said it could have bought a nuclear missile in 1991 for \$1 million rather than \$1 million. The organization said as official guarding nuclear weapons at a Soviet base south of Berlin offered to sell a now-obsolete Soviet missile for \$200,000 and political ally in the West. A Greenpeace representative said the group was attempting to prove that nuclear arms from the disintegrating Soviet Union could really be bought.

GANDHI TRIAL OPENS

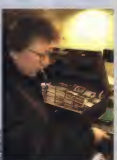
The trial of 41 people accused of plotting the assassination of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991 opened in the southern city of Madras. Gandhi was blown apart when approached by a Sri Lankan Tamil woman carrying a pistol in a crowded bus. The trial is the first in a series of cases against Tamil and Indian leaders of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, a group that is fighting for a separate state in the north and east of Sri Lanka.

World NOTES

Putting on the brakes

Rational reformers were out, conservatives were in, and the valiant leader of President Boris Yeltsin's promises to keep Russia's income tax system from collapsing seemed as illusory as the country's battered ruble last week. Only a week after assuming President 1991, Clinton that he is committed to economic reform. Yeltsin launched a much more cautious approach by dropping or delaying most of the cabinet ministers who had been pushing the country towards a market economy. First out the door was Economics Minister Igor Krasov, who resigned on Jan. 15 after complaining about the government's unwillingness to prop up unprofitable state enterprises with subsidies and low-interest loans.

Bowing to widespread public discontent over Gorbachev's economic shock therapy, Yeltsin has now adopted a sort of halfway approach. Last week, he replaced by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, a former state security manager. Instead of trying to fight inflation—in the past year it has risen between 15 and 30 per cent—a month—the government will now concentrate on increasing industrial production, even if that means higher inflation. For a week of policy switch, one key minister, 25-year-old Yury Fedotkin, has refused to resign in the cabinet as finance minister. After a week of economic and ultimately little negotiations, Fedotkin expressed Chernomyrdin's economic policies as "a return to the past," adding that they would bring on hyperinflation.



Exchanging rubles for dollars, poverty

Many ordinary Russians apparently share that view. In publicly stock trading, the ruble's exchange rate has dropped from about 900 per dollar on Jan. 1 to 1,500 rubles per dollar last week. "Worse economic shocks may come. According to Fedotkin, the government's inflation policy could push the ruble as low as 9,000 to the dollar. "The more the new cabinet ministers try to be popular," added Fedotkin, "the shorter the length of time they will be in office."

Boutros-Ghali gives the green light

UN Secretary General Boutros-Ghali announced that he had a mandate from the Security Council to order NATO air strikes in Serbia. Boutros-Ghali said that he favored using air power to implement UN resolutions in the former Yugoslavia and would approve such action if Bosnia, his special representative there, requests it.

Many more, however, in Italy to air can't. Military commanders in Ottawa, and on the ground in Bosnia, have repeatedly expressed concern that Serbian intentions, if pressed, might launch retaliatory attacks on Canadian peacekeepers.



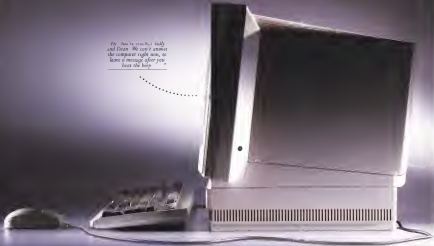
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Invasion of the shopper snatchers

Retailers are preparing for tough competition as Wal-Mart sets out to win Canadian consumers

The question was on everyone's lips at the meeting: "When is Wal-Mart coming to Canada?" retailers and property developers kept asking at a Toronto conference of the International Council of Shopping Centres. This was nearly two years ago, and Thomas Sasse, executive vice president of Wal-Mart Stores Inc., kept replying that the giant U.S. retailer had no plans to open any of its discount stores north of the border. Despite that, on Jan. 14, Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer with sales of \$75 billion in 1993, announced that it had bought 120 of the 142 Woolco stores in Canada from Woolworth Corp. of New York City. Wal-Mart executives said that some stores could reopen under their banner by the summer. However, no official price was revealed for the deal. With its enormous buying power and ruthless efficiency, Wal-Mart will introduce to Canada the everyday low prices that have helped to make the chain a runaway hit with U.S. consumers. "North America is going to have no borders, from a trade standpoint," said David Glass, Wal-Mart's president. "We see Canada as an unbelievably great opportunity."

In the last few years, the number of foreign retailers in Canada has increased. IKEA, the furniture merchant from Sweden, U.S. wholesale megastore Supercenters, Price Club and Costco and Toys 'R Us Inc., the giant toy distributor based in Paramus, N.J., among others, have all taken big slices of the \$60-billion Canadian retail pie. But none is as divided by its competitors—or as eagerly anticipated by consumers and potential investors—as Wal-Mart of Bentonville, Ark. Its 2003 offices are seldom anything special to look at, equipped as they are with such discount-store standards as fluorescent lighting, wide aisles and goods stacked to the ceiling. But Wal-Mart has developed an unusually tight reputation as an aggressive (some critics say overly aggressive) marketer—a retailer that always has what consumers want, when they want it at consistently low prices. "Everybody knows the Wal-Mart strategy," says Michael Pearce, an associate business professor at the University of Western Ontario in London. "The difficulty comes in trying to match their execution."

Wal-Mart's Canadian competitors are protesting a good fight, and industry analysts expect that Canadian shoppers may not be as susceptible to Americans' low-price aggressive sales tactics. Even so, the Wal-Mart empire has already moved to be a potent force. The day the

BUSINESS

company announced the takeover, investors dumped stock at major U.S. Wal-Mart competitors. Shares of Harborside Inc., which owns the 100,000-sq-ft Bay and Zellers, fell 10 percent, plummeting \$5.67 to \$35 on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX). The slide continued last week in all, the TSX's merchandise listings fell 1.5 per cent at a time when the TSX 300 index was setting record highs.

Wal-Mart's reputation for being not only no-nonsense but also vision has also proved it in Canada. According to John Herrington, Woolco's marketing manager, the company offered to sell all 142 stores in Canada. Wal-Mart, however, chose not to buy 25 of those stores (including seven 100,000-sq-ft units in British Columbia and Quebec and one in Ontario) that have union representation. "We believe that that was done deliberately to keep the union from getting a foothold in Wal-Mart in Canada," says Tom Kalkonen, Canadian director of the Washington-based United Food and Commercial Workers Union. "The evidence speaks for itself." But Wal-Mart executives denied that union affiliation played any part in their choice of stores. "It's Canadian retail, really, and not American," Glass told *MarketWeek*. He said that Wal-Mart considered about 25 locations for each store, such as the cost of renting it and the potential

for sales. "We rejected certain stores for size reasons or another, but no consistent reason," Glass added. He also denied that Wal-Mart is in any way anti-union. "We have no aversion to unions," he said.

Whatever challenges unions may confront, Canadian retailers also face a daunting task in coming to terms with the new competition. France cautioned that although discount and department stores apparently have room to lose, few Canadian retailers can afford to be complacent about Wal-Mart. Each Wal-Mart store was usually about the same size as the Woolco stores they will be taking over as Canada—has 36 departmental from clothing to electronics to lawn and garden supplies. In addition, some Wal-Mart stores have pharmacies, indoor five supply and service departments and optical centers. "Consumers are in for a terrific experience," said Stephen Belbin, president of Toronto-based Alterra's Home Improvement Warehouse Inc., which has shelled out for traditional hardware trade as well as home centers with its new large-volume home centers, Belbin's. According to John Herrington, Wal-Mart is working to retooling in Ontario, Gl. said. "They are a legitimate retailer and they are going to be formidable competitors."

Wal-Mart is arriving with its considerable record among merchandisers. According to Vancouver retail consultant Les Thorne, the company earns a volume \$200 per square foot of retail space about three times the industry average by that calculation, he said. Wal-Mart could be the critically timid Woolco's retail sales in Canada to \$40 billion from \$14 billion—making it a force to be reckoned with. Sasse's three-to-five store rollout in Canada is currently the Canadian industry's leader, with annual sales of \$5.2 billion.

Within three years, Wal-Mart could become the largest retailer in Canada, Thomas said. Despite Wal-Mart's huge size, Belbin says



that the U.S. giant is far from invincible. For one thing, its prices and range of products are sales more impressive than its deals of selection. "They attract the kind of customer who goes to buy back-to-school clothes for the kids and then picks up light bulbs or milk," said Belbin. "But if the consumer wants something specific like paint, each Canadian store will

always have 5,000 colors in stock, while a Wal-Mart will have 200 colors."

Other Canadian retailers are aware that they can compete against the U.S. giant. Analysis has suggested that as Canada's largest discount retailer, Zellers stands to lose most to Wal-Mart. But Paul Wolters, president of the 200-acre Montreal-based chain, argues that Zellers is best equipped to fight the newcomer. He notes that Zellers has built customer loyalty with its Club Z program, in which regular shoppers earn points towards free merchandise. Said Wolters:

"Club Z has seven million members out of a possible 11 million households." As well, Zellers has already gone head-to-head with Wal-Mart in several border towns, including Cornwall, Ont. (across the St. Lawrence River from Massena, N.Y.), and Smith's Bay, Maine. Ont. went to the Michigan town of the same name. "Wherever we've been in close proximity, we haven't seen any impact," Wolters said.

Wal-Mart was founded in 1962 by Sam Walton, who died in 1992 at the age of 75 of bone cancer. Walton, who spurred the growth of his empire through equal measures of hard work, pragmatism and entrepreneurship, had laid out a winning formula, concentrate on the small towns that most big retailers tend to ignore. By 1980, Wal-Mart had more than 1,000 stores. Wal-Mart's move to Chicago in the world's largest retailer along the way, Wal-Mart spent millions on inventory management,

including a satellite communications system that, besides tracking goods, can transmit sagging sales figures—what Wal-Mart calls its employees—a head office. And while many competitors have started working more closely with their suppliers, Wal-Mart sometimes goes a step further and works with its suppliers' suppliers. For instance, Wal-Mart will make sure that an apparel manufacturer has enough fabric on hand to make the garments it has ordered.

The company also has one of retailing's most sophisticated and efficient distribution systems, a factor that helps keep prices down. But some of its competitors have accused Wal-Mart of selling goods below cost to drive them out of business. Indeed, in October, an Arkansas Supreme Court judge fined Wal-Mart nearly \$300,000 for predatory pricing, agreeing with the three pharmacies that took the case to court that Wal-Mart policies had the effect of "ignoring competition." Wal-Mart—which admitted that it sold some items below cost, but denied that it intended to destroy competition—has appealed the ruling.

It is too early yet to say whether the prices on Wal-Mart's Canadian shelves will be as attractive as those on its U.S. shelves. That retail analysis says that the higher costs of doing business in Canada, including the lost structure that supports the local supply chain, as well as relatively higher laws and other labor regulations, will inevitably result in higher markups.

Another challenge facing Wal-Mart is the subtle cultural differences in its new place of business. Wal-Mart said that it plans to hire—and retain—most of Woolco's current 16,000 Canadian employees, that Canadians are traditionally much more reserved than Americans. As a result, said John Herrington, a managing director of the Toronto-based consulting firm Strategic Decision Systems, Wal-Mart's new employees are less likely to buy into the deeply cultural U.S. company. "Can you imagine 50 or 60 Canadian employees voting there every morning with the heads on their chest, saying 'I national anthem?' said Herrington. "I sure can't." But, consumers in Canada might not be informed by such standard Wal-Mart techniques as having "associates" greet them at the door, she said. "Canadian was helpful service. But Americans put a much higher premium on enthusiasm," Herrington noted. On the other hand, Wal-Mart has become the world's largest retailer by sales in what the company wants it may be a formula that squares no borders.

JANUARY 20, 1994

Business NOTES

COURTING SMALL BUSINESS

Canada's largest banks are paying increasing attention to small businesses—in part to head off interference from the new Liberal government, which came to power last November to ensure that small companies receive more loans. The Toronto-Dominion Bank is reducing the personal guarantee it requires for loans made under the Small Business Loans Act to 10 per cent of the loan from 20 per cent. The Bank of Montreal is setting aside \$1 billion for small business in 1994.

EXPORTS SLOW

After spurring economic growth for the previous two years, exports dropped in November. Statistics Canada reported that exports fell to \$15.6 billion from a record \$16.2 billion in October, due to a decline in oil and gas shipments. Meanwhile, imports rose to a record \$15 billion. The increase in imports suggests that the economy is strengthening.

HUGE WRITEOFFS

As corporations close their books for 1993, announcements about write-offs are flowing. Moore Corp., the Toronto-based business forms maker, plans to close plants, cut 3,000 jobs worldwide and take a \$404-million write-off. Tropic Corp., the Calgary-based real estate holding company, of the Toronto-based Brampton group, announced that it will post a \$122-million loss for 1993, mostly due to the write-down of the value of properties.

CHINA SELLS SHARES

In an emboldened bid to attract foreign investors, China is planning to sell shares in 20 large-scale enterprises on foreign stock markets this year. The Hong Kong chairman of the China Securities Regulatory Commission says that most of the so-called "red-chips" companies will be traded on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong, while others will be listed on the New York and London stock exchanges.

PILL PIPPING

Time Warner Inc.'s board of directors approved a so-called poison pill defense to ward off attempts by Seagram Co. Ltd. of Montreal to increase its stake in the New York City-based entertainment giant. The new shareholder rights plan could make any major stock purchase highly expensive, even because it would allow earning shareholders to exercise stock rights if any investor bought more than 15 per cent of the company's shares. The board acted after Seagram upped its stake in Time Warner to 11.7 per cent from 10.4 per cent.



CBC Prime Time News newsmen in Toronto: succumbing to a pure storm

Lost in space

As a electromagnetic storm of new satellites has apparently permanently disabled one of Canada's own main telecommunications satellites. The satellites, Anik E1 and Anik E2, failed within hours last week, sending havoc with long-distance television and computer data transmissions, as well as phone service to remote northern communities. Among other things, the failure knocked out CBC NewsWorld, 1594, MacBlaire and other national cable services off the air. Telestar Canada officials said the storm, caused by a solar flare 100 times stronger than anything previously experienced, first caused the \$200-million Anik E1 satellite to spin out of control 23,000 miles above the Earth. Technicians quickly transferred transmissions to Anik E2, but that satellite succumbed to the storm eight hours later.

While Telestar technicians successfully used radio commands to regain control of Anik E2—and began transferring transmissions back from Anik E2—efforts to stabilize Anik E2 were unsuccessful. By week's end, about 90 per cent of the signals broadcast by Anik E2 were being transmitted by Anik E1 and a U.S. communications satellite. But Telestar officials acknowledged they held out little hope of salvaging the stranded Anik E2, launched in April 1981. "If the storm, indeed, we will not get the satellite back," said Len Sams, Telestar's vice-president of

space systems. In that case, it would take up to three years to replace Anik E2 with another satellite, jeopardizing—among other things—the early introduction of new specialty television channels, which had been expected to begin service later this year.

An unenviable record

The financial picture keeps getting darker for Ontario Hydro. Last week the chairman of the beleaguered Crown-owned utility, Maurice Stacey, announced that Hydro will likely record a 1993 loss of \$2.9 billion to \$3.1 billion—the largest loss ever by a Canadian company. However, most of the losses are the result of huge write-offs, including a \$624-million charge to pay for the severance packages and other retirement benefits associated with a staff reduction of 4,500. In addition to the restructuring charges, Hydro has been hit by plunging demand for electricity and a massive long-term debt load of \$34 billion. But with the 1990 losses out of the way, Stacey forecast that Hydro would earn a \$400-million profit in 1994.

Another bright spot is the unexpected increase in demand caused by the bitter cold, which has chilled much of North America in recent weeks. Over the first 15 days of January, Hydro's export sales to the United States and other provinces totalled \$25.7 million, compared with \$1.75 million for the same period last year. Whatever happens during the rest of 1994, Hydro will definitely earn a profit this month—thanks to Old Man Winter.

THE NATION'S BUSINESS



Singing tomorrow's political blues today

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

Speeches from the drowse are about as tedious a tradition as the Parliament Hill luncheon dispensed as Black and knocking on the doors of the Commons. But as last week's debate floundered, they do set the tone for things to come. True to tradition and their refusal to let tired roles in this new Parliament, the party leaders obliged by setting out their beliefs and not-so-beliefs apologetically.

Jean Charest, who appeared so at home in the plush green library of the lower house that you could swear he had been born there, asked and asked, well, come ministerial. The best TV shot of the throne speech debate was the camera panning in on Charest's assistant, Sheila Capps, who not only had to keep her mouth shut during her leader's dream-out moment, but had to pretend she was enjoying it. Maybe she was: daydreaming is still a trick, also cause through to change, it, managing to speak longer than the other party leaders combined, without sounding a single positive note. "The pre-referendum campaign has begun," he astutely remarked, serving almost that his not-indebted-but-not-will-be-see-by his broken dream, left his chair, which he held on to as he sat on his hands, but he was not in a bad mood on his bad days or for television appearances at least two generations ago. Managing a message was short and to the point, say telling politics and start cutting the deficit, or we won't have a country left in government. His proposal to cut \$7 billion out of Ottawa's current \$110 billion spending estimates made good sense and his idea of the public taking his questions they were asked in the Commons as a stroke of genius. There was, however, something fishy in his having placed himself in the second row at the Commons' post-referendum order. Just out of the boys' You believe.

Stall, Preston Manning's concluding comment—"I was wondering why this is called question period and not answer period"—summed up the day's proceedings perfectly. As even their speech event that benefits future trends was an appeal to the Speaker by Jean Charest that his voice be more frequently heard in Commons debates. Like a window rilling his chair to space, the acting leader of the Tories sounded shrill and persuasive, but his cause lacked substance. Any strong chair at a decorated party that managed to elect only one follower (who has arguably been denied the privilege of being seated with her leader) carries no special reward. Perhaps it is at this precise moment, watching Charest's pleading for attention and not getting it, that the last remnants of the Tories' defeat set in. The party that had dominated this House for the past nine years—and an impressive total of 42 other years since it brought about Canada's original Confederation—is no longer a player.

Neither, of course, is the NDP, which swept altogether absent in last week's proceedings. Somewhere between the ideologies of Ed Broadbent and Audrey McLaughlin, Canada's socialist cannot bring a protest party. The passionate aggression they had once suffered in Canada's capitalist system has been diluted by so many compromises that the movement has abandoned or forgotten its radical roots and become a fringe outfit for dyspeptic academics. Ironically, the New Democrats' left-wing populism has been co-opted by the machinations of the Reform party. About the only party Reformers and Tories have in common is their belief in the righteousness of their cause. Nonetheless, are intentionally convinced to Canada's version of political purgatory, which means that they're confronted and dismissed as efforts a strategy that includes anybody with more than a few moderately programmed brain cells to mix together.

Preston Manning proclaimed his sincerity with a button-down, light-blue shirt, which politicians used to wear on bad-hair days

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Cracking down in Vancouver

A long-awaited report says that it is time to tame one of the world's most notorious stock exchanges

BY CHRIS WOOD

A tall oak display case tucked into the corner of the Victoria's Grocery at the Vancouver Stock Exchange (VSE) holds mementos all the market's colorful history. One item attracts particular attention: a rough chunk of dusty yellow rock the size of a child's head, sitting next to a miner's lamp. A card next to the rock identifies it as Pella's Gold—as one that unscrupulous dealers passed off as the real thing. It is a reminder of the exchange's shady past, but there is still plenty of shimmers of glitter about the country's second-highest securities market. The VSE, under its own vice-president of public affairs, a former journalist named David Laxand, "is not far from being a legend."

As recently as 1989, so low as scrutiny on entrepreneurial risk and reward that *Forbes* magazine called Vancouver "The new capital of the world." Speaking to VSE investigators last September, author and securities analyst Adrian de Plessis described its dominant culture as "the white-collar transgression of several," the Mafia code of loyalty and secrecy. The daily newspaper journalist who has researched it most intently, financial columnist David Beares of *The Vancouver Sun*, repeatedly characterizes activity on the exchange as simply "unscrupulous greed." Finally, despite posting a record trading volume of \$75 billion shares in 1993, the Vancouver Stock Exchange has a problem.

As an arena for both risk and reward, in

fact, the B.C. securities market has few equals. For young ventures with promising ideas but little capital, speculative investors on the Vancouver exchange have often proven willing to risk in where more timid bankers have feared to lend. The resultant successes include companies recycling steel and filters and battling bladder cancer, with one design, said many of Canada's preeminent names. The record of success, however, suffers from the continuing evidence of unethical abuse.

According to former Sage Robert MacAulley, federal commercial crime sleuths have no fewer than 50 investigations under way into "allegations [of] securities fraud, fraud, theft from treasury, forgery and false prospectus" involving companies listed on the VSE. And exchange officials acknowledge that they are adding to the list of possible abuses requiring further investigations at the rate of one case a week.

The lowest point in more than a decade of nearly continuous scandal for the exchange is late 1993. In the wake of the collapse of yet another high-flying stock, Penbridge Capital Group, Vancouver city police revealed that someone (presumably who has never been determined) had issued an underworld contract for Beares's murder. Seven months later, the British Columbia government hired James Muller, an administrative law expert and former president of the B.C. Business Council, to conduct a wholesale inquiry into both the VSE and the B.C. Securities

Commission (BSCC), which is responsible for regulating the market-owned exchange. His report is due this week.

Muller is expected to recommend sweeping changes in the way the 40-year-old Vancouver market oversees trading and the licensing of resource and junior venture stocks. In private meetings, he has hinted that he will propose scrapping the Securities Commission, and giving its powers, along with many of those now exercised by the VSE staff, to a new agency, likely to be called the Securities Exchange Board.

But such radical surgery is certain to meet stiff resistance from both the exchange and its supervising commission.

McAulley agrees that the country's most notorious securities market is broken—or that it needs to be. But VSE president Donald Hadden insists that whatever abuses may have occurred on the Vancouver exchange in the past were not much different from those that took place in other securities markets. In the past seven years, he says, the VSE has licensed itself to one of the most tightly regulated stock markets in the world. Its poor reputation, he says, is primarily the fault of outside traders. As for the Securities Commission, as chairman, Douglas Hynd-



A call for 'major structural changes' to enforcing the rules

Regulatory head James Muller

VSE trading floor in the mid-1990s

ties, wanted Martin in a dual subscription that he proposed far from directing up the troubled exchange, "would, in fact, detract from the fairness and efficiency of the market."

At the heart of the VSE's mission is an appealing idea: to raise money for promising but unproven business ventures. In the early decades of the exchange's history, most of those were mines, and the VSE still attracts large numbers of young companies in search of funds to explore promising mineral claims in Canada and abroad. But in the last decade and a half, a growing number of VSE-listed companies have sought capital for the development of new technologies or novel commercial ventures, ranging from hand-held gas detectors to a string of bars that serve only nonalcoholic beverages. VSE, as one of the burgeoning ecosystems of the Pacific West, the VSE "we declare that its goal is to be recognized internationally as leading Securities Exchange focused on the listing of venture companies."

Unhappy for the exchange, it has often been identified with issues that likely serve them only as creative distractions and alibi. Issues of overcharging, squandering of corporate funds and outright fraud. The same unproven mineral deposits and untested technologies that are most in need of venture capital, it appears, are also the most accessible to manipulation.

Escalating the risks inherent in any new venture, manipulators have typically seized on small VSE-listed companies with relatively few shareholders and assets of dubious quality. They have encouraged outsiders to invest in

the stock until the shares have risen appreciably in price—all too often adding that prices will surge further—and then sell off their stake before the inevitable downturn in the value of the company's stock. Frequently, the money that the company received from the sale of new shares during the way all too vanished, lost to unscrupulous buyers or spent on fraudulent investor relations contacts who sold some promoters who dreamed up the scheme.

In one infamous episode, promoters David Ward and Edward Carter staged more than \$84 million from a Troubadour restaurant and hotel that held a dozen VSE-listed companies before they withdrew claims to light in 1984. Both men were later jailed in

One local business columnist received a death threat

David Blau of
The Vancouver Sun

such an investment, holders of Crown Technology stock were sold out by the company traded last week at \$2.90.

As reported for the B.C. exchange extends well beyond such unscrupulous antics as Blau and his friends. "It is a rigged market," former VSE nonpromoter of lawsuit William Brachy recently told Blau during a public hearing last August. And 1982 chairman Hyndman in his own admission to Martin.

"The VSE has made only limited progress in eliminating fraudulent and manipulative schemes," evidence that Hyndman's view is

WILLIAM BRACHY

two-pronged venture called Crown Technology Corp., which developed a one-shape helmet that it claims can regenerate heat and melt ice for adaptation in mild climate climates is the scale. The company early last year reported an accumulated deficit of \$84.4 million. Nevertheless, it was able to raise \$3.75 million last October from investors in Zurich, London, the late of Nan and Barbara, who bought 1.5 million shares in the company to purchase an additional 1.5 million shares for \$4.50 each. According to Blau, the VSE, Crown Tech. had a total of \$20.7 million in assets as of \$205,750 on the stock

list to an agent in London, Pils. Although conservative money managers might balk at such an investment, holders of Crown Technology stock were sold out by the company traded last week at \$2.90.

As reported for the B.C. exchange extends well beyond such unscrupulous antics as Blau and his friends. "It is a rigged market," former VSE nonpromoter of lawsuit William Brachy recently told Blau during a public hearing last August. And 1982 chairman Hyndman in his own admission to Martin.

"The VSE has made only limited progress in eliminating fraudulent and manipulative schemes," evidence that Hyndman's view is

fairly starkly emerged in Martin's interim report, released in October. It said that a poll that Martin conducted of 301 current and former VSE investors found that 50 per cent of them agreed that "most listed companies are more a product of promoter than substance." That, remarkably, did not help but supported many of them from putting their money into VSE-listed shares. Most of the investors who stopped to check the performance of their stocks on computer terminals at the exchange's Visitor's Center on one recent morning were likely unconcerned about whether their shares represented legitimate enterprises. "Out of a handful of companies, there are only five that are legit," estimated one man, who declined to give his name. "I can't really care. You can make money with credits if you can get in at the right time. The danger is the secret, nothing else."

Another skeptic, but determined, investor is Paula Ward, a self-described "professional stockpicker" who claims to have "lost a lot of money and won a lot of money" on the Vancouver exchange. "People love to gamble," she said. "If you like the gambling spirit out of the VSE, it will be dead." In fact, she asserted, "they're trying to kill with this commission."

One of the most fervent and controversial figures ever associated with the B.C. securities market recently agreed with that assessment. Among the stocks that promoter Harry Malt argued on securities during his two decades of activity on the VSE was Lonestar Resources Ltd., its shares soared from 30 cents to \$12.63 before regulators halted trading in May, 1983. The pervasive stock pro-

to inflate the stock's value in the next day's newspaper listings.

Reverse takeover (RT): Acquiring all the shares of an inactive company, and then starting it up again, often in a field unrelated to its previous activities. The legal maneuver is favored by manipulators because it tends to attract less regulatory scrutiny than launching a new listed company.

Rollback (aka reverse split): A procedure in which several old shares in a company are exchanged for one new share. Convoluted shareholders often engineer rollbacks after reverse takeovers, to keep out smaller shareholders.

Warehousing (aka parking): Holding stock on behalf of an undisclosed manipulator in return for favors such as secret commissions.

Wash trading: Trading stock back and forth among several brokerage accounts in order to pad up the share price.

SARAH DAVIES in Vancouver

The VSE dubious achievement awards

Vancouver Stock Exchange officials insist that they have cracked down on abuses. Some of the low points from the past decade:

1984: Carter and Ward
Stock promoters Edward Carter and David Ward conspired to inflate the price of shares in more than a dozen well-listed companies, siphoning an estimated \$14.5 million into their personal accounts before the scheme collapsed. Both earned jail sentences.

1984: Chopp Computer
Promoters falsely claimed that Chopp Computers was putting the finishing touches on a superlaid computer, named the Columbian Homomorphus. Named Promoter No. 1 on the exchange, Chopp was, according to his brokers, doing the company's share price from 17 cents to \$125 before the scam was exposed and the stock collapsed. An investigation ensued but no criminal charges have been laid.

1985: Technigen Platinum Corp.
Technigen claimed to have the rights to a sophisticated gold mining mine. After promoters announced sales worth \$116 million to Swiss-based company, Technigen's share price soared from \$1.50 to \$10 before collapsing. The "Swiss" company was eventually exposed as a Panamanian shell company run by a convicted stock swindler.

1987: International Tiliex Enterprises Inc.
Promoter Sam Ford, who was convicted in the early 1980s of stock fraud in the United States, mismanaged the revenue taking of an inactive mining company, then transferred it into an insurance firm. Growing press exposure and failed revenue claims caused the stock price to slide from 25 cents a share to \$7. Eventually, the company's lack of adequate cash reserves attracted the attention of regulators and the RCMP. Tiliex's collapse cost investors millions of dollars. An investigation ended abruptly when the company's accounting records went missing.

1989-1992: Phynridge Capital Group
Phynridge's five subsidiaries were involved in a number of share activities, including the supposed development of a 15-lb. freshwater pearl. The value of its shares plummeted when investors learned that most of its assets had been pledged as security for loans to the company's Swiss

swindling shareholders. Phynridge's managers had also lent \$500,000 to two anonymous Panamanian companies. Among the investors who lost an estimated \$110 million in the collapse of Phynridge stock was a British pension fund. The fund suspended trading in the company in late 1992, but it remains active and is seeking a new listing based on its only remaining asset, a jewelry.



1992: Lessemann Inc.
In 1992, the Texas-based company announced plans to produce and market a series of home-video motivational videos, with the help of endorsements from sports stars Wayne Doolittle, Magic Johnson and Joe

Montana. An initial public offering of stock raised \$1.5 million. Although the videos were slow to appear and failed to find a market, the company's share price rose from \$1.25 to \$2.50 after a much-publicized investment in the company by Texas financier T. Boone Pickens. Lessemann's stock price finally tumbled to 52 cents, and the company went to reorganization, after its president admitted to a prior drug conviction. Later, investors discovered that Lessemann had guaranteed Pickens's investment in return for his support.

1992: V-Tech Diagnostics (Canada) Inc.
Selling a VHS record for trading volume in a single year, 69 million shares in V-Tech changed hands in 1992, many from three cents to 44 cents on claims that the company had developed a cheap and reliable test for AIDS. Regulators halted trading when the company failed to file financial statements, which would have revealed that it was insolvent. After V-Tech's collapse, investors learned that its founder, James Parker, had lied when he claimed to have a Yale University medical degree.

1992: Azogon Resources Ltd.
Company founders Steven and Jody Greenwald claimed to have discovered a formula for a nonalkali, noncorrosive salt substitute to melt snow and ice. Within nine months, Azogon shares rose from 70 cents to more than \$7.50. Regulators then questioned financial statements suggesting that customers owed the company more than \$50 million. An audit showed that less than \$20,000 worth of claimed sales were legitimate. The company collapsed.

The VSE's greatest hits

The Vancouver Stock Exchange justifiably boasts of its ability to raise funds for risky new business ventures. Some of the more imaginative ideas that have floated on the market:

- 1 Plastic zip-on snow tires (1982: Syn-Trax Tire Inc.).
- 2 A self-watering air dose plant (1983: Devo Plastifinder Ltd.).
- 3 A super-breed rabbit, with, according to its promoters, a very part of its anatomy marketable in one form or another (1985: International Rex Ventures Inc.).
- 4 A portable toilet equipped

with inflatable toilet paper dispenser (1984: Isoli Exploration and Development Co.).

5 An archeological mission that claimed to have discovered the fabled King Solomon's mines (1987: Vault Explorations Ltd.).

6 A agency on treatment for using the acid wave on toilet seats and telephones, later revealed to be liquid bleach (1987: Med-Tech Systems Inc.).

7 A self-chilling beer can (1982: TP Thermal Packaging Inc.).

8 Cone-shaped metal headgear that produces an electric current, promoted as a cure for baldness (1989: Current Tech-Gen Corp.).

A stock promoter's glossary

What are "bottom feeders"? And why do they get accused of "painting the tape" with a favorite asset? A guide to the jargon used in stock market circles:

Blowing off: Selling stock to unsuspecting investors after promoting the price up

Bottom feeding: Buying a new or inactive stock at a low price, in the anticipation that the readers are going to begin promoting the stock, resulting in a higher stock price

False underwriting: Issuing a new stock through corrupt brokers who assure that only selected insiders are able to buy the majority of shares.

Arks: Under-the-table commissions paid out by stock promoters to brokers.

Atrey: A stock promoter engaged by one broker through another in order to disguise the broker's identity.

Laying out: Loading up a broker's clientele with worthless stock being bought from the stock promoter or his family.

Match trading: A conspiracy between two or more manipulators to trade stock at a pre-arranged price

Painting the tape (aka jake high clearing): Buying or selling stock at the end of the trading day at an artificially high price in order

maker was also a key figure in the history of Placer Dome Group, a mining company that collapsed in 1992, contributing to British Columbia's decision to sever ties with the company.

Speaking to *Macleod's* from his home in Palm Springs, Calif., early this month, Mail insisted that criticism of his role in these and other deals is unfair. "What I tried to do," Mail said, "was find a property we thought was worth investing in, we bought the property, we brought money, built it into a successful company and then sold it." Explaining the failure of many enterprises that he promoted, Mail declared: "Deals have gone wrong but it has never anything to do with money, but because of the nature of the world, it was a reward-to-risk ratio." In fact, Mail is sharply critical of the current attempt to tighten supervision of the B.C. securities market. "The VSE is trying to regulate itself out of business," the promoter said. "They're doing away with the competitive market that made things go."



**'We try to
cull out the
absurd, the
stock play,
the ridiculous'**

VSE president
Donald Hudson

British Columbia's securities market was severely shaken in providing scope for abuse in the freewheeling 1980s. Inappropriate dealings on the Toronto Stock Exchange led regulators there to impose lifetime bans on securities trading against three persons in October after the Ontario firm failed in 1987. In that same year, high-flying American deal maker Ivan Boesky was jailed for three years after admitting he made \$400 million from illegal trades on the New York Stock Exchange.

At the same time, so many that there were major outbreaks of the British Columbia securities market over the past seven years have been aimed at making those more difficult. Chief among those is the establishment of the B.C. Securities Commission in 1987. The BCCSC now spends a quarter of its \$4.7-million annual budget investigating complaints against listed companies and prosecuting criminal offences.

On its own, the VSE has demonstrably still met requirements for companies seeking listing on its board. "Of companies that listed in 1988," asserts Hudson, "nearly would not be listed in 1994. We try to cut out the absurd, the stock play, the ridiculous." The change affects new stock through public data bases for any evidence of past trouble having by those involved in companies seeking a listing on the VSE. "Notes managed or supervised by Alfred Street," Hudson said, "are taken down listings as a result of the people involved." As well, recent takers in, in

which entrepreneurs trade actively for controlling shares in exchange-listed but inactive companies—a quite legal technique favored by Hudson investors trying to secure listings on the exchange—now require the same scrutiny as initial public offerings.

"Trading irregularities became easier to spot in January, 1990 when the VSE became the first exchange in North America to abandon its informal trading floor and switch to computers. The exchange where floor traders once shouted out their clients' bids has since been heard to the VSE's ban on floor traders. Meanwhile, more and more investors purchase of stock on the exchange on computers, not through the floor traders, and this has helped to detect suspicious trading patterns—and to record the identities of active accounts for possible further investigation. So, Steven puts it: 'We have an audit trail.'"

Hudson, for his part, insists that the exchange has sharply raised the standards of performance that it demands from brokers. He points to the VSE's record of sanctions against member firms and those employees found guilty of breaching securities regulations. Between 1980 and 1993, the Vancouver exchange imposed fines of \$948,250 against violations, more than any other Canadian exchange during the same period. A further course, which takes effect this month, will require brokers who sponsor new listings on the exchange to notify the affairs of those companies for a year and to alert regulators to

any signs of inappropriate trading that period. Exchange officials complain that their critics have been slow to acknowledge the VSE's accomplishments—and too quick to blame it for failing to detect manipulations. Investors Hudson: "There are some things that could not be disclosed in advance. But have we gotten credit for the reforms that have taken place? No, we have not." Referring to the listings on an exchange, Hudson adds: "Nobody asks us about the good ones."

They do not. One company that gives credit to the Vancouver exchange for its success in Victoria, B.C.-based Bionetics Ltd. The company's prospects seemed bleak when it raised more than \$1 billion on the VSE in the early 1980s through shares initially offered for less than \$1. It took another decade for Bionetics to find the demands that its analysts believed lay beyond the perimeter of the Northwest Territories, for the company is now developing a mine in the La Grande area, northeast of Yellowknife, where it expects to begin production by 1997. Bionetics stock closed last week at \$54 1/2 a share. Says Bionetics president James Bionetics:



Dirty dancing

Stock plays can be as creative as their brokers' imaginations. Consider the story of Lionheart Resources Ltd., which flashed, crashed and revived on the Vancouver exchange in the mid-1980s:

STEP 1:

Acquire a listing.

Stockbroker Robert David and Daniel Hunter, associated with promoter Harry Mott, acquire control of the unlisted shell company Lionheart Resources Ltd. On Oct. 5, 1983, they secure a listing on the VSE.

STEP 2:

Sell stock cheaply to family and friends.

Mott, his wife, the Hunter brothers, their mother

and father and two friends acquire 70 per cent of Lionheart's initial share offering at 30 cents a share. The rest of the stock is offered to outsiders, trading initially at 64 cents a share.

STEP 3:

Inflate the stock's value.

In 1986, Lionheart announces plans to generate electricity by burning garbage in

"If it were not for the Vancouver Stock Exchange, I don't think we'd be here."

Still, even Bionetics has encountered evidence of a deeply entrenched penchant for shady deals on the B.C. securities market. "We got offers," he recalls. "One was that if we would create a certain company, stock of this company would be put in our name, in the Bahamas." When Bionetics later sought financing from stock exchanges Toronto and the United States, Bionetics said, he discovered that "certain brokerage houses have a firm policy that they will not finance companies that are listed only on the Vancouver Stock Exchange."

Another person who supports the VSE's record of raising money for daring new business ventures is Tom Kiernan, president of the Toronto-based C.D. Howe Institute and chairman of First Marathon Securities. The Vancouver exchange, Kiernan says, is "strategically placed on the Pacific Rim" to become the leading venture capital market for that region's larger-scale economies. But at the time it took such a goal, he warns, "its acceptability has to be re-examined. It has to be free of meddling of money, of manipulation. It has to have unfettered category."

A year ago, British Columbia's New Democratic government recently announced that the province's securities market has been plagued of its problems and manipulations, in announcing Bionetics' assignment that year, then-British Minister Rita Clark observed: "We continue to have problems that lead to the belief that this is a haven for unscrupulous operators, and we continue to deal with debt threats and other problems that impact on our international reputation."

In his column report last October, *Macleod's* made clear his intention to recommend "ten structural changes to the regulatory sys-

tem. The deal never materialized. At the same time, insiders traded shares among themselves and the stock price moved upward.

STEP 4:

Sell, sell, sell.

When the stock price hits \$4, Mott, the Hunter brothers and other insiders quickly begin to unload their shares. By issuing news releases about a computerized model-making system, they keep the price buoyant; it tops out at \$1.60.

STEP 5:

Let the roof fall in.

Regulators, alerted by the stock's meteoric rise, halt trading on Lionheart on May 5, 1988, and demand an explanation. The Hunter brothers are fined a total of \$30,000 and suspended from the exchange for 60 days for rigid trading, but no action is taken against

them. In a private briefing for officials of the B.C. securities market, he outlined the first proposed Securities Exchange Board would comprise 100 people chosen from various groups with an interest in the securities market. The board would have staff who would take over the current duties of the BCCSC, as well as the VSE's regulatory functions, including the regulation of the market and approving new listings on the exchange.

Even a new regulatory structure, however, may do little more than challenge the incentive made behind previous manipulations on the B.C. securities market. "For the most part, we've got a good [regulatory] set," argues Kiernan, but, for one, "It requires a cultural change for people in the industry to realize that business practices that were acceptable in the past have to change."

There is a more radical solution, one that Hudson would see as a private meeting with one of Vancouver's most respected money managers, who asked to remain anonymous, he advised Hudson not to reconsider any changes to the Vancouver Stock Exchange. Instead, he suggested that the province establish a competing exchange, one of clear and unquestionable authority. "Then, for the best of all things light up," the investor later said during an interview with *Macleod's*. "Let the market decide." It is a solution that Adam Smith, at least, would certainly endorse. But as BCCSC chairman Kiernan noted in an interview with the *Star's* *Business* in December, 1989: "In three months, business has a legitimate change [in] power, we won't know what we're doing."

On the evidence, that has yet to happen. That again, at least some of the investors who operate there are quite happy with the Vancouver Stock Exchange just the way it has been. Poo's Gold and all.

Mott—it is determined that, at the outset, he was distant from the deal.

STEP 6:

Changing Course.

Regulators allow trading in Lionheart to resume in August, 1988. Soon after, the company announces a change in direction, focusing on plans to acquire a company that has developed a computerized system for producing three-dimensional models. Its share price rises from \$3.15 to \$6.50 within a year.

Postscript: A Happy Ending?

In 1990, Mott and the other Lionheart shareholders accept a takeover bid from a subsidiary of Swiss pharmaceutical giant Ciba-Geigy, which is interested in Lionheart's model-making project. Mott receives \$7.5 million as the takeover.

By S.

Along with the usual investors who walk in off Howe Street to put a few dollars down on stocks that sell for as little as a penny apiece, the Vancouver Stock Exchange has attracted its share of occasional high-rollers, some of them controversial.



Arne de la Haza and Adam Knochowicz came to the B.C. securities market in 1986, promoting three companies, one of which claimed to have discovered King Solomon's mines in Africa. His stock plunged after a U.S. court accused Knochowicz of using stock to bribe a Canadian diplomat, Stephen Rosenbaum, to shield his assets from creditors in the United States.

In the late 1980s, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission told Canadian regulators that a close friend of a business partner of former Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos was using a still-based brokerage to launder stolen assets from his homeland. Regulators revoked the brokerage's license in 1988.

That same year, one of the hottest companies on the rise was Zurich International Ltd., a firm involved in a mining venture in Chile. But enthusiasm for the stock waned when a key investor turned out to be Juan Carlos Schidlowski, a stock promoter who had fled the United States after pleading guilty to 26 counts of tax and securities fraud. Schidlowski subsequently resigned from the firm's board.

Among the few investors to escape unhurt from the 1991 collapse of Placer Dome's VSE-listed stock was prominent Zurich financier Werner Rey. The company promised him a healthy profit on his \$3.6-million investment—six months later it bought the stock back from him at an \$800,000 premium. Rey now lives in the Bahamas and is fighting extradition to Switzerland, where he faces charges over the \$1.2-billion failure of his Oron Holdings Ltd.



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The Male Myth

Men are fretting about their manhood—both literally and figuratively. There was a time when men took it for granted. It was just *being* Men, they are not so sure. And the threat about manhood is, without confidence, it's nothing. "There is a genuine crisis in masculinity," says Michael Kaufman, the Toronto-based author of *Cracking the Anxious Power Man* and *The Uses of Men*. "By challenging men's power, women have

Faludi, in fact, is writing her next book about the crisis in masculinity. "I used to roll my eyes when men would say they were victims," she says, "but I've come to the conclusion that it's a heartfelt expression. What they need to figure out is if they're victims, then who are the victims? Because it's not women." Adds Faludi: "The *Bohannon* case fits nicely into this symbolic dream that a lot of men are playing out in their houses—seeing women as the Amazonian army who have taken machismo to the west." The real threat, argues Faludi, is the changing economy, the lack of job security and the role of the Cold War. "If men get

they're the oppressed good guys, and they don't have the evil empire, and they don't even have Saddam Hussein, then women get cast in the evil role."

Masculinity has been in and out of the shop for retooling for decades. After the Second World War, conquering heroes came home to North America and embraced the dream of becoming proud breadwinners. Father love best. Then, the *Playboy* philosophy—40 years old last month—suggested that a world of sexual liberation lay beyond the white picket fence. The fantasy took quite a different turn for the next generation, with the dawn of free love in the 1960s. That by the 1970s, feminists began to lay down some conditions—to demand respect, autonomy and self-fulfillment. And today? Over time, men have been trying to redefine what it means to be male. Some extreme post-psyche have emerged. They range from the superintelligent man, who does his best to keep his male ego swaddled in cerebral masculinity, to the late John Wayne, who tries to resurrect masculine mythology in all its hairy-chested, drum-beating, second-guy glory (the most common response to the male identity crisis is simply confusion: "Guys just don't know what to do any more," says Siskind). "We're all collectively redefining the rules, and change doesn't come with an open agenda."

In *The Book of Guy*, American novelist Garrison Keillor (*Guys Who Say Guys*) offers a more cynical view. In his telling, passage, he writes: "Guys are trouble these days. Your guy, married with an opportunity for advancement, and now it's a problem to be overcome. Pinto, St. Francis, Michelangelo, Maury, Leonardo da Vinci, Vince Lombardi, Van Gogh—you don't find guys of that caliber today, and if there are any, they are not outside the ceiling of the Statue of Liberty. They're trying to be Mr. O.R. All right, the man who can take a cherry pie, go play basketball, come home, make meat balls and whip up a great salad, converse easily about intimate matters, participate in recreational sports, laugh, hug, be vulnerable. A guy who women consider acceptable."

In the past, North American men could look to the movies for role models. From Humphrey Bogart to John Wayne, there was always enough testosterone to go around. But the biggest action figures nowadays—Eisenstein, Stallone, Schwarzenegger—just seemed to spoil their own on-screen images, while men haunted by insecurity, doubt and regret are the new Hollywood heroes. A new dawn the last of most *Dirty Harry* sorts arose for best actor reveals a legend of sensitive and vulnerable masculinity.

• **Tom Hanks**—the leading candidate is the New Man of the year. In *Stepfather* is



Clockwise from above, Hanks feeding baby in *Philadelphia*; DeNiro with Michelle Pfeiffer in *The Age of Innocence*; Hopkins with Debra Winger in *Shadowlands*; Williams in *Mrs. Doubtfire*; while the biggest action figures speed their own macho image, men haunted by insecurity and regret are the new Hollywood heroes



Stepfather. He is romantically punished, a well-loved father who becomes the passive target for a woman who trades him with mother love. New in Philadelphia, is a gay lawyer (Dean Cain), he gets back after being fired by the conservative legal establishment.

• **Anthony Hopkins** personifies the tragedy of male repression, first as an emotionally challenged father in *The Remains of the Day*, then as writer C. S. Lewis, who weeps away his childhood in *Shadowlands*. Both men lose their fathers before reaching young manhood.

• **Sean Connery** sets with contrition in *Schindler's List*. As Oskar Schindler, the factory industrialist who becomes a father figure to Polish Jews during the Holocaust, Connery makes a grand drama of male guilt.

• **Daniel Day-Lewis** plays a jaded man, or in *The Age of Innocence* and both leads

with British patriotism as in *The Name of the Father*'s Gerry Conlon, an Irishman wrongly convicted of IRA bombings—Conlon's story is set against the drama of him reconciling with his estranged father.

• **Jeff Bridges** plays not a male crisis in a plane-crash survival in *Twister*. His character struggles with duties as a husband and a parent while turning into a war hero—and then he goes against a menacing band of devils in his final fight.

• **Richard Williams** covers his husband with a visit in *Mrs. Doubtfire*. As a divorced father who masquerades as a nanny to gain access to his kids, he becomes a superhero, putting his career-driven wife to shame.

• **Kurt Russell** shows his dark side in *A Perfect World* as an outlaw saved by child actor who takes a young boy hostage and becomes a father to him.



• **Garrison Keillor** plays an action hero in *The Fighter*. But he is the ultimate man in a woman's world, leading and governing in a constant state of anxiety and fear.

And now, the man who wrote the biggest action movie of all time, last year's disaster thriller *Jurassic Park*, has tapped into a primordial fear much closer to home. There are no *Videodrome* in Michael Crichton's new novel *Prey*, but his villain—a sexually voracious female scientist who turns a male colleague—just as vicious. Warner Bros. paid Crichton \$1 million for the screen rights even before Crichton had written the book. It already reads like a *Jurassic* movie, with a female scientist at *Panoramas* and *Isle of the Dead*, both features about menacing women who send men in a primal rage.

But Crichton also serves as a catalogue

When Dr. Stubbs met Dr. Long

He used to spend his time lifting boxes, winning contests and enjoying himself. But last November, Dr. Robert Stubbs, 44, became the first castrated patient (castration is North America's alter name for vasectomy). Now, he has trouble handling the violence. More than 400 men have shown up at his Toronto clinic for consultations, and he has performed operations on more than 40 of them. According to Stubbs, most men requesting the \$2,100 procedure are already of average, below-average—or better-than-average income. "I get a real kick out of dealing with the patients and asking, 'Why do you want a longer penis?'" he says. "The commonest response is, 'It's for me.' They want an extra couple of inches for their own self-esteem—it's a macho thing."

The surgeon works out of a large, luxurious clinic among the boutiques of Toronto's fashionable Yorkville district. Sitting in his office, he displays before and after snapshots of an erect member. A ruler in the photographs shows that surgery has lengthened the penis from 4½ inches to 5½ inches. "The most I've got is an extra 8½ inches," says Stubbs, who estimates that the average penis is about 5½ inches when erect. In a recent newspaper report, a Toronto surgeon placed the average at 8½ inches. "His measurement is a flood of new patients for me," says Stubbs, "but I don't think anyone has good hard statistics from a large enough sample to make an authoritative estimate."

During a trip to China last October, Stubbs learned the people lengthening procedures from Dr. Long Daoshou, a plastic surgeon who removed 110-year-olds for a small penis organ had been better off by a deal. What makes the operation possible is the fact that about half the penis is hidden inside the body. The two-hour procedure involves excising the excess by cutting ligaments that attach it to the pelvic bone. Before surgery, Stubbs injects the patient with drugs that prevent an erection. That makes the operation less risky, he explains. "I can tell it's penis and not testis pain." The erection, which lasts an hour, also provides instant results. "When the veins come to pack the penis, the response is an instant erection," says Stubbs. "We pull the cover back and say, 'Do you want to see?' One wife said, 'Oh, I don't know if I can handle that.'"

Most typically, the patients are happily married and request the surgery without pressure from their wives, says Stubbs. "It's a very serious thing people go through. It's a very serious thing with another man. It's a very serious thing. The second, I'm back—I've got children, I have a wife. She doesn't feel around, she's my presence. I own two cars. I own a business. And I want a big penis, and no one will stop me."

But the surgeon's patients do include a man who had suffered from testicular cancer. "There's a risk

that you get cancer there who have been treated," he says, "who have looked mean phobic." Then, there are those who believe an extra inch or two will cure their aging sex lives. "One guy came in and said, 'I've been married for 20 years and my wife just rejected to me she'd never had an orgasm,'" Stubbs recalls. "I had to tell him that a longer penis is not going to do it. What assumes me is the number of men who are willing to do anything to make their wife or girlfriend happy—more of it means spending \$2,100 on lengthening their penis."

Stubbs, who describes himself as "a domestic, aggressive, surgical, sexual male," says that he would not have the operation himself. "My power comes from what's in my



Stubbs: "They want an extra couple of inches for their own self-esteem"

head and what I do with my hands," he says. "And I'm of average length." In fact, the surgeon insists that he tries to talk conditions out of the operation, which has some risks. "The nervous system is right there, half a millimeter away," he explains. "Accidents happen. That's why we've got a consent sheet, which lists everything from death to dysfunction." The sheet carries a warning: "Patients have only one penis and it is therefore important that they read the sheet very carefully."

If a healthy patient wants the operation, however, Stubbs is glad to oblige. He is scheduled to perform it on a 35-year-old man with a heart bypass. "It makes some guy more powerful and capable of living the day," he says, "who say it's critical?"

of male complaints on other fronts. The main character, a computer executive named Tom Sanders, begins the workday of his life by being late for work—the first in a line of the children breakfast while his wife gets dressed. Arriving at the office, he learns that an unqualified woman has won the promotion that he had assumed was his. “This makes me angry,” mutters one of his co-workers. The new boss calls Sanders into her office and tries to seduce him. He reacts, half-hesitantly, then finally turns hostile if away—but not before uttering a line or two. The next day, he accuses him of sexual harassment then he accuses her, and the story escalates into a corporate conspiracy plot.

Disillusioned is the literary equivalent of the Bobbitt trial, reexamining and reinterpreting at odds with the real world. *Penile-shackles*, after all, have not reached epidemic proportions (although there have been other cases, two years ago in Hampton, Ore., a 48-year-old woman cut off her husband's penis and was acquitted on the grounds that she was a battered woman). In a similar vein, less than one in 10 sexual harassment charges are led by men. But in *Devilman's* top-heavy world, as men sexually harass women, there have been countless women harassing men. Last spring, a Los Angeles middle manager, Soloma Gentry, won \$5.3 million in a sexual harassment suit against Maria Mancoske, the chief financial officer of a health-manufacturer. Gentry, meanwhile, defends his role reversed scenario by arguing that men and women behave much the same in positions of power. As women rise in the media, he says, they are as capable of harassment as men—as were abused by such icons as Naomi Wolf. But despite Gentry's claims of equality, what emerges from the book—and what will get magnified in Hollywood's lens—is the image of an abused man fighting to defend his job his respect and his family from the ravages of an overzealous, out-of-control woman.

Like pop psychology reinforces a major mythology among North American men. Since the publication of *Ivan John* (1989), Robert Bly's dance call for men to get their loss, there has been an explosion of self-searching books about emotional manhood. Current titles range from *Men of Men* (1994) to *The End of Masculinity: A Book for Men of Conscience*, both by psycho-



Macho wolf Pakis and friends; Crichton (below): tough, mesmerizing and at odds with the real world



men dressing of a kinder, gentler gender. Other books, including *Not Only The Game of Defense of Men* and *The Myth of Male Power* by My Men Are the Dominant Sex, present a more radical view, portraying men as victims of feminism run amok. Some authors have tried to explore the untold and unspoken of men in less intimate and more. In *Man Overboard*, *The Adventure with North American Men*, Canadian writer Ian Brown

takes an eye-opening, personal approach through deep, direct no-holds-barred, moving letters and letters, photographs and plastic surgery, stockholders and start-chases—while living his own terror of imminent falsehood.

Unlike feminism, a movement based on demands for political and economic equality, the men's movement remains largely introspective—and unbecoming. The word rape against feminism is equally unforgotten, and one has homophobic conspiracy theorists.

More Lepore's memoir of 14 female students at Montreal's Ecole polytechnique in 1989 was a purchase act, but he involved a whole of feminism and a paradox of women taking men's jobs. Last fall at Vancouver, Coast Community College, a student pointed a dagger and made a charge-point move during a vigil commemorating the massacre, after women expressed outrage, the university ordered him to take counseling sessions.

Across the country, universities have become battlegrounds for gender politics. Last November, the University of New Brunswick suspended a mathematics professor, Marie Vaillancourt, who wrote in the student paper that rape can be a necessary outlet for young men unable to restrain their sexual urges. And, alarmed by the increase in sexual harassment charges on campuses, the Fraser Institute, a conservative think-tank based in Vancouver, published a report earlier this month warning that radical feminism is endangering academic freedom.

Searcher, the Bobbitt case brings the whole debate back to focus, back to the kitchen and the bedroom—the bedrooms of the gender war. To a sense, by cutting off a penis and tossing it into a field, Lorena Bobbitt has performed a kind of modern fertility rite. Ancient civilizations sacrificed human body parts and burned them to make divine glow and appease the gods. The Bobbitt penis has landed on national publicity obsession. It has become a media litmus. As TV anchors pronounced the word "penis" over and over, the trial turned into a conspiracy trial for the male member—and a conspiracy trial for a female member. That a female body goes to the field, the real world, where the penis gets lost, it cannot be found in a field and seen back to.

Judgment day

Lorena Bobbitt's acquittal for maiming her husband escalates the larger gender war

Not only Minutes after Lorena Bobbitt's acquittal by reason of insanity—for cutting off her husband's penis a local television station conducted a street survey in the crowded couple's old neighborhood in Menlo Park, Va. Nearly every woman surveyed late last Friday agreed with the jury's judgment. "She was a victim," said one. "It's a wonderful verdict," said another. "She was right to do what she did—she was a pig." And the next? Every man either seemed surprised or angry.

Yes, that was just a snap survey, and opinions on the sensational survey trial are not needed entirely along the male female line. But there was no question that the battle of the Bobbitt had escalated the larger gender war. Ken Gandy, executive vice-president of the National Organization for Women, praised the jury for rejecting "the best of arguments that a battered woman should be locked up in a prison cell." Sidney Silver, a founder of the National Organization for Men, called the verdict a tragedy. "The trial," warned Silver, "has now opened up on men." And Brian Blosil, director of American Families, a conservative Washington-based policy group, declared, "Millions of women will look at I should be thinking what they will be thinking. The bottom line is, the world is a less safe place for men."

Amid all the breathless rhetoric, millions of people who either watched the televised trial live from Menlo Park or read some of the columnar news coverage could draw their own conclusions. The central facts of the case were never in dispute. As her husband lay in bed just June 28, Lorena Bobbitt used a kitchen knife to slice off his sex organ. Knife and severed penis in hand she fled their



Lorena and John Bobbitt: was the verdict 'wonderful' or was it the beginning of 'new season on men'?

apartment and drove to a friend's house, leaving the penis on the car window sill the way. It was later recovered by a police officer and returned to an operation that lasted nearly 10 hours.

Lorena Bobbitt, 26, never denied maiming her husband, although she testified at her trial that she did not remember doing it. But the Ecuador-born man's wife also claimed that her husband beat and abused her, forced anal sex on her and threatened her emotionally throughout their five-year marriage. Through tears, she testified that, on the night in question, her husband came home drunk and raped her. When she went into the kitchen for a drink, she said, she had flashbacks of the earlier assaults. Overwhelmed by defense team argument she lost control. Attorney John Howard called it "a

classic case of irresistible impulse"—a legal defense similar to temporary insanity.

Defense witnesses corroborated some of her evidence and said John Bobbitt begged that he be killed, not just that he be sexually abused and his men of the jury seemed to have their verdict on the testimony of psychiatrists who had examined Lorena. Dr. Susan Foster said Bobbitt was a "typical" battered woman, troubled especially by her husband, and Foster also attacked the weapon which was the instrument of her torture—that it was her husband's penis. Foster testified that Lorena "suffered from major depressive disorder, she suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder and she suffered from an anxiety disorder."

In a separate trial two months ago John Bobbitt, 26, was acquitted of raping Lorena on the night she learned her husband had been raped. But at her trial, he denied ever abusing her. Prosecutors now claimed that her real motive may have been revenge after John Bobbitt had an extramarital affair. Still, the prosecution themselves did not dispute that Lorena had been abused. Instead, they sought to prove that she acted out of anger, an emotion she had the power to control. "She did not have an irresistible impulse," prosecutors testified. "The Miller-Lyons incident," "but in a rape case she did not resist, which is different." Argued prosecutor Mary Grace O'Brien, "Mr. Bobbitt was in a society in which whatever his wife's husband told him was the law. The jury took less than eight hours to reach its verdict. Afterward, the trial judge ordered Lorena Bobbitt held for up to 45 days of observation at a mental health facility. Afterward, Lorena issued a statement read by a friend saying that she hoped her case would help other women abused by their husbands.

It was a noble sentiment. But despite all the attention the case has attracted despite all the potent gender politics behind it, the Bobbitt case is not a landmark. Lorena and John Bobbitt's story is essentially a personal injury in his claiming a grounds defense attorney Howard called the severing of John Bobbitt's penis "probably one of the most bizarre acts that has happened in this country in a long, long time." Only slightly more bizarre is the way the case has consumed the American psyche.

MARY McWORTH with WILLIAM LYNNHART in Menlo Park

Feelings And Fantasies

Across the country, Canadian men are grappling with the mores of the '90s

Getting in touch

Gary Berth's wife, who is expecting their first child, will have three socially acceptable options as a mother. "She can stay home and that's a good thing," says Berth, 30, a federal government employee in Vancouver. "Or she can go back to work part time or full time and be a progressive woman." As for himself, Berth says he has only one socially acceptable option: full-time work. "He could stay home and care for the child, be on orders, but I'd be really stepping out"—breaking the male breadwinner rule that endures long after women began expanding the options available to them.

Two decades after the launch of second-wave feminism, men are facing their own movement. The men's groups have been dismissed as dressy boys doing silly things in the woods (but Berth, a member of Vancouver M.E.N. [Men's Emancipation Network] and the Windsor Council, says drumming and other rituals are a small part of what those organizations do). They are generally support groups in which men talk about their feelings without pressure to conform to male stereotypes. If men are going to change their roles in society, Berth maintains, they must first find out what those roles are—and that's a feminist character trait. The group he's in, says Berth, has changed his life. "I'm much more able to engage in a relationship. I have a sense of peace and calmness."

Coffee confidential

They sport the same penalty ties and ground down shirts they have dyed brown. But make no mistake: the four supervisors

staring coffee at the bar downstairs lounge at the headquarters of the Halifax area's Metro Transit Division are charged even in bed, when purchasing manager Peter Ross, 38, is in a mixer, "We were always sensitive guys," the table explains with laugh but not enough to stifle the nearby bus drivers out of their card games.

It was no laughing matter when Metro Transit's message or resigned two years ago at one senior female employee accused him of sexual harassment. The message denies the allegations, and the case is still before the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission.

But the incident led to a crisis course in gender politics that has left many in the transit male population confused. "We went through no risks," says support services supervisor Mike Macdonald, 45, "to not being sure if we could complement a female co-worker on how she looked without oversteering the bounds." Mike Macdonald, 33, a quality-control analyst. "For a while, it seemed we had a target pinned on our chests and it was open season."

They feel a bit less beleaguered now. "I think we have a much better idea of what we can and cannot say and do," says operations superintendent Denis Taylor. Guidelines for behavior were laid out in an updated sexual harassment policy introduced in December, 1992. And the supervisors attend annual ses-



At the Zanussi: "a place to just get away"

sions designed to "sensitize" them to social issues. Most, in turn, are required to pass those lessons on to their subordinates. "No question," says Macdonald. "We have a new appreciation for what women have to go through in the workplace." But they also have a new sense of wariness. "The warning signs are always on," says Ross. "We just want to be extra, extra careful all the time."

Young gladiators

The locker room at the Greyfriars Arena is cluttered with hockey gear and ice skates and burning with pregame banter. The visiting Sherbrooke Phoenix are taking up a Quebec Major Junior Hockey League game against the hometown Bruins. There are 22

scrapping young men, none in age from 12 to 20. And they are starting to face the glories and problems in the country's national sport—a country that sets them up as role models, and turns over them as vile young men.

When the subject of women arises, the reaction is as instantaneous as it is predictable—knowing smiles and snickering. "When you're a hockey player in a small town in Quebec," says Brian Ross, 18, a left-winger, "that means that you're with a lot of testosterone—so far as women are concerned." That, when the players aren't, is just as reasonable as one might think. "None, it might be a little easier for some of us to get laid," recorded defenseman Pascal Tremblay, 20. "But if you're interested in something more than sex, there's probably harder for us to get involved in a serious relationship with what used to be called a 'good' girl."

Another defenseman, 19-year-old Charles Paquette, nods agreement. "Hockey players have a bad reputation," he says, as he pulls on a jacket. "It scares a lot of girls." Cassidy has the bad word on his tongue. "You can't always get it," he says. "We can't except the fact that we're not models in the community for a lot of kids, both boys and girls."

Full-time fatherhood

Major Mom—the very phrase pains him as fathers who stay at home to care for their kids. But now who's on the apron stringing any more in nothing against what the social disapproval they sometimes endure

Three years ago, Ken and Judy Tews of suburban Ottawa decided that their two sons, then six and seven years old, were old enough because both parents were now busy with their careers. Ken, now 38, quit his planning job at an Ottawa defense contractor because Judy, a 37-year-old teacher, was less likely to be laid off. When he resigned after 17 years of continuous employment—Tews was on the verge of panic, wondering if he had done the right thing. "It's been a sweet and sour experience," he says now. "My 11th son and a number of older relatives think I'm a hero. They say Judy should stay home. But I think it's the best thing I've ever done."

According to informal estimates, less than one per cent of Canadian fathers fit the Mym description. But Tews speaks warmly of the intensity of his new relationship with his children. Raising his youngest son from infancy, he adds, has created a bond between them that he calls a "good" girl. "There are also some terrible benefits." "We used to eat very poorly because we were always rushing," he says. "We found that I enjoy cooking, and now there are always homemade cookies or muffins in the house and good food of every kind."

Despite their rewards, Tews still struggles with negative feelings. "In our society, your identity is your job," he says. "When I was employed, I felt like a somebody. Having my children is not something that society values." In other words, Tews now copes with any-at-home fathers. "I am not sorry because I see how kids these days are appreciated. When their hair bands are tied to them, I find myself shoul-



Tews with his son: "I think it's the best thing I've ever done"

ing at the man." In fact, Tews says, looking after others has altered his own character. "Constant giving generally doesn't ruin the male psyche, which is more self-centred," he muses. "Looking back, I can see that I'm a much more caring person than I was."

Where boys will be boys

John ("Not my real name") and his friend Paul ("My wife would kill me if she knew I was here") are sitting on the Zanussi. Tews, one of Toronto's oldest and busiest strip clubs. The two business executives, both around 40, admit that they were just walking along Yonge Street after a Maple Leafs hockey game and wanted to get out of the blistering cold. "A place like this gives you something to look at as a bar, to make it a little more interesting," says Paul, adding that he rarely goes in strip joints. John, sitting at the young woman's table, says "It's a place to just get away from everything else."

While the winds of political correctness blow outside, the Zanussi, and places like it, offer a sanctuary where boys can still be boys. While plastic coats of redneck under the walls and ceiling, dancers in G-strings and bikini tops strut among the patrons offering a table dance—a one-on-one striptease—for \$6. The only rule is to the sisters of the 1980s is to the man's watch room, where the plastic under the skirts have the words "Say no to drugs."

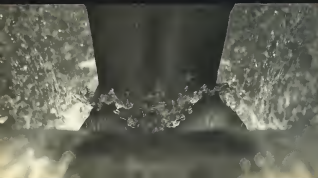
What's the appeal? "Some guy, usually," says a dancer who calls herself Ladyfairy and whose English still bears the inflections of her native Thailand. "Some guy will be with a girl, but we're happy—some time has with us turn into any more." A certain form of gallantry appeals at the Zanussi—no touching of dancers and no dancers between the rules of the house. "Because there's no nudity, it's safe sex," explains Pacey, a stage dancer from Toronto. "The dancer is in control. Some guys come in to pick up a girl—but that's the last thing you'll get here."

What the patrons do get is male-female interaction on the lowest level. As the evening wears on, the dancers, from wearing lingerie to mid-eyed, rappers, and the girls. Women. Near closing time, Vanessa Strickland in New West T-shirt Canada \$6—calls out: "a little more interesting." Cassidy has the bad word on his tongue. "You can't always get it," he says. "We can't except the fact that we're not models in the community for a lot of kids, both boys and girls."

FRANCIS CHENHONG and JOE CHIEFFI
Interview: JOHN DENNETT in Boston
BARRY CAMP in Guelph and
ADELLENE WELSH in Vancouver



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'My life is on the ice'

Tonya Harding tries to tough it out

Figure skater Tonya Harding has always been a tough cookie in a literal sport. The 26-year-old from Portland, Ore., has drug racing and bawling among her hobbies, and her penchant for bad language is legendary (she overcame an on-ice upbraiding and an abusive marriage while somehow winning two U.S. women's figure skating championships that all that got out was to carry her through her career troubles). Earlier this month, her bodyguard, Shawn Eckardt, and two alleged accomplices were arrested and charged with conspiracy in the attack on Harding's rival, Nancy Kerrigan, at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships in Detroit on Jan. 6. Then, last week, Harding under went 10½ hours of interrogation by officials

of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Portland—during which she said she was separating from her then-1½ co-husband, Jeff Gillooly. Hours later, Gillooly told *The Oregonian* newspaper that Harding had known about—and helped cover up—the plot to double the 24-year-old Kerrigan.

At week's end, a Portland grand jury was reportedly considering whether to indict Harding in the conspiracy. And the swirl of controversy left the U.S. Figure Skating Association (USFSA) with a dilemma: Harding was the U.S. title in Kerrigan's absence, and

the two skaters were supposed to join the American team at next month's Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway. Although Harding denied any involvement in the attack, both the association and the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC), which has the final say, were considering dropping her



Gillooly: Harding with coach Thore Erickson. Defile: what did she know and when did she know it?

from the team. Yet U.S. officials were also concerned that cutting Harding would result in a stern legal challenge under a system that views her as a constant pit bull grown grumpy. And because "the grand jury has until Feb. 3 to report on the case—and U.S. Olympic officials must name their final roster by Jan. 30—Harding seemed to have a strong chance of going to Lillehammer. "She is on the team right now," said James Doherty, chairman of the USFSA's international committee. "If other evidence comes out, we'll take it as a career."

Even if Harding were to be indicted, U.S. officials might hesitate to remove her from the team. One sobering legal precedent: the lawsuit that took star Dutch figure skater Yvonne van den Berg from competition for two years for allegedly taking position for steroids, but the court ordered a federal court that the testing procedures were correct. The court awarded her \$36 million in compensatory and punitive damages, the IAF is appealing the decision.

While U.S. Olympic officials struggled with the Harding question, the media knew exactly what to do. On TV and in print, the saga of the skaters played like a morality tale, with Kerrigan cast as the beauty and Harding and her associates as brutes. On the ice, however, there is a more complex reality. Because the career loss Kerrigan's good looks and wily figure, then figure her occasional lapses in skating (she finished 20th at last year's Worlds). The career is equally critical to the less graceful Harding, whose successes are more to hardship—she is a terrific jumper—than to strategy.

Strained relations on the U.S. figure skating team are nothing new. The former Canadian skater who asked to remain anonymous, described some past American teams as "12 skaters, 12 cats in the mix." And even before the attack, Kerrigan and Harding may well have been the definitive ice creamers from hell.

Kerrigan became the team's star after 1992 Olympic champion Kim Zmeskal's forced professional. Advertisers, including Revlon and Campbell's Soup, came courting and before long the skater's daughter was America's skating sweetheart. Harding, meanwhile, has never been able to translate her accomplishments into lucrative sponsorships. Toxic tie and Tonya have been synonymous, particularly after she threatened a woman with a baseball bat during a minor traffic altercation outside a Portland arena house in 1991. And last week, former sister Princess Schachtel told *The Milwaukee Star* that Harding punched her at a competition in Los Angeles in 1986. The American was dropped by her former agent, Michael Rosenber, last November among potential sponsors, he said, controversy was the last of death.

Olympic judges, cautious for their subjective scoring, might feel the same way. Even if Harding is allowed to skate at the Olympics and perform flawlessly—she seems unlikely to win any medals and all the turmoil. Yet, tough as ever, she continued to prepare for Lillehammer last week, skating publicly at a shopping mall in suburban Portland. She practiced her trademark jumps and spins, cheered by a couple of hundred fans. She asked to answer reporters' questions about the case, talking only about her skating. "My life," she said, almost wistfully, "is on the ice."

JAMES BEACON

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Brrrrrrrr...

The big chill freezes normal activities and sends some people south

Just how cold was it? "The snow was a like this," said Robert MacLeod, a name in the Northern Ontario community of Kapuskasing, where the mercury dove to -40° C. "It's so cold the fans actually left all the mits of two of my friends' cars."

In fact, it was so cold in many parts of Canada last week that schools closed, workers were sent home, diesel fuel failed to gel and propane had liquefied in Montreal alone, the Canadian Automobile Association received a record 45,000 emergency calls so far in January. And in the United States, where the deep freeze caused more than 130 deaths, Washington was all but shut down for a day and a half when 300-600 government workers were ordered to stay home to relieve the city's overstressed utilities. But Canadians, in keeping with their status as inhabitants of the coldest country on earth, often greet the big chill with humor. "We call it the Fluorine of Ice," said MacLeod. "When you get in the car, the seats are as hard as rock."

Much of the northern half of North America was in the grip of a complicated series of weather systems producing temperatures that fell well below -30° C and colder. David Phillips, a senior climatologist with Environment Canada in Toronto, said the jet stream, a system of high-altitude winds that normally carries North American from west to east, shifted in late December and began funneling frigid northern winds to the south. As a result, temperatures in the Yukon and parts of southern Ontario last week were about the same as about -30° C. Extensive snow cover in the southern hemisphere may also be turning down temperatures by trapping ground heat so the air above grows colder. Both these climatic events have ac-



Heading up in Ottawa: 'an old-fashioned winter'

curred before, although not for about a dozen years. The cold weather will likely continue well into February. "We're having an old-fashioned winter," said Phillips. "Just like we had in the past."

And like they have in the past, most Canadians are adapting. Travel agents reported a flood of calls from people wanting to book southern vacations, while others booked in artificial sunshine at their local tanning salons. "We are absolutely packed," said Suzanne Croglia, co-owner of the Beaches Tanning Studio in Toronto, which features decorated salons depicting Acadia, Hawaii and Arabia. "You just leave your boots at the door and tilt the bench." For others, it's simply a time to lay extra clothes. "We haven't sold the ballcaps in three years," said Angela Montgomerie, owner of the Adventure Arms, an outdoors store in Hamilton. "Today, there's a business epidemic."

Not all Canadians bid to leave the country to escape winter. While much of the rest of the country lost, Vancouver was looking to warm air under a high-pressure ridge that has caused garden plants to bloom, trees to blossom and grass to begin growing. And with 10° C temperatures in the west, Vancouver TV stations proudly posted the most of Canada by having picture frames containing their today lower

temperatures looking to warm air under a high-pressure ridge that has caused garden plants to bloom, trees to blossom and grass to begin growing. And with 10° C temperatures in the west, Vancouver TV stations proudly posted the most of Canada by having picture frames containing their today lower temperatures looking to warm air under a high-pressure ridge that has caused garden plants to bloom, trees to blossom and grass to begin growing. And with 10° C temperatures in the west, Vancouver TV stations proudly posted the most of Canada by having picture frames containing their today lower

SHIVERING ACROSS THE NATION

Last week, while Vancouver hit a high of 9.5° C, temperatures in most Canadian cities plunged well below zero. A sampling

CITY	LOW LAST WEEK	PERCENT FOR SAME DATE
St. John's	-14.3	-19.9 (1957)
Halifax	-21.0	-25.0 (1957)
Ottawa	-31.3*	(previous -25.3)
Montreal	-32.2*	(previous -30.0)
Toronto	-25.8*	(previous -23.3)
Winnipeg	-36.3	-37.8 (1990)
Regina	-36.3	-40.0 (1980)
Edmonton	-27.2	-37.8 (1970)

*New record

TOM FENNEL



Chaplin, right, co-star Cyndy Pevsner: a source of inspiration

The whale as metaphor

Many Chaplin fans are not of the opinion that, among other roles, the 44-year-old Toronto actor has played a crazed U.S. cavalry major (Ghosts with Wolves), an eccentric and wealthy lost soul (The Adjuster) and a twisted two-truck driver (Cold Comfort). "I look for a character who is experiencing crises and important things," says Chaplin. And he has! In work, while Mike, in which he co-stars with Toronto actress Cyndy Pevsner, has plenty of both. In it, Chaplin portrays Desmond Howl, a famous rock musician who becomes obsessed with composing a symphony for whales in his gigantic mansion overlooking the sea. To prevent himself for the role, Chaplin visited the Vancouver Aquarium where he found the whale trapping. Said the generously proportioned actor: "They are so large and gentle. They become a metaphor for me."



Return of the Fab Three?

Ringo Starr is a grandfather. Paul McCartney's old George Harrison's soap tops are turning grey, and John Lennon died at the hands of an assassin 14 years ago. But in the 30th anniversary of the Beatles' North American debut on The Ed Sullivan Show approach on Feb. 8, millions of North Americans are twisting and shilling once again over a planned reunion of the three surviving members of the Fab Four. Next month, Starr, 53, McCartney, 58, and Harrison, 58, are scheduled to meet with their former record producer, George Martin, to discuss a proposed 10-part television documentary, book and compact disc compilation chronicling the group's career. Last week, McCartney confirmed that the three musicians also plan to play together for the first time since the group broke up in 1970. "For old time's sake, we're going to give it a whirl," he told reporters in New York City after he induced Lennon into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame—and hugged Lennon's widow, Yoko Ono—in a televised ceremony. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Hoops to hardball

Less than four months into his retirement from basketball, 30-year-old Michael Jordan is looking restless. The seven-time NBA MVP is looking for a new challenge in Chicago all winter for a second career in baseball. Despite speculation that his major league prospects are, in the words of one American League official, "a joke," there is reason to believe Mr. Jordan could fly in baseball. Jordan is buddies with Jerry Reinsdorf, owner of both the Chicago Bulls (Jordan's former team) and the Chicago White Sox. And the south side Sox, the Windy City's poor cousin to the town with north-side Cubs, have a history of chasing stars off the field. The Sox made a big deal about luring Minnesota's, who entered the majors in 1961 and retired in 1964, play in a couple of regular season games in 1979 and 1980 so that he could claim a five-decade career. That track record has sold a few tickets—because they tried to sue. Minnesota agreed last year that the Sox was alerted at the request of the other players. Besides, the Sox already had a glaring crack in the roster—Babe Ruth. The extreme slugger whose hitting average, if not his sales value, has been declining following hip replacement surgery. With that track record, can the Sox resist the allure of Jordan, the most valuable commodity in sports history?



Home-made afternoon

I will be a Canadian version of that most American of entertainments, the afternoon soap opera. This morning, one and two, Canadian style, will continue to television when the long-dormant Penny Pastors provisions on the CTV network. The Canadian-German co-production revolves around two families: the Haldens of Germany and the McDermots of Canada and their jointly owned Australian empire. One of the lead actors is Toronto's Laurie Holden, who plays Clare Taylor, a rebellious daughter who torments her parents with her headstrong ways. Holden attended the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television where she won the Norman Blood Award for best actress last year. Holden has already starred with Michael York in the sci-fi thriller Teku and Vanessa Redgrave in the historical drama Young Catherine. Now, she says that Canadians are ready to accept a home-made soap. "I think it's about time that Canada has something to call its own," said Holden. "We're going to put something out that deals with a Canadian family with Canadian actors."



Keeping the voices soaring

At the end of Leok Jansz's impassioned opera *Alceste*, the title character escapes from her troubles by drowning herself in the Volga River. The Canadian Opera Company (COC), which is now presenting its premiere production of the Czech composer's highly regarded 1981 work, has had some grave problems of its own recently. General director Brian Dickie abruptly resigned from the Toronto-based company last fall, citing his frustration with its inability to obtain a proper opera house.

The Canadian Opera Company gets a frugal director



Broadbent: 'the wisest sort of place'

Some COC board members, meanwhile, were openly blaming Dickie for plunging the company more than \$2 million into debt. Unlike Jansz's *Alceste*, however, the COC seems to have no intention of abandoning the struggle. Last week, company officials announced plans for a cost-cutting 1994-1995 season and appointed COC music director Richard Bradshaw to the newly created post of artistic director. A general manager responsible for the business side is to be appointed soon.

The question is how to sort out the fiscal difficulties without compromising the artistic gains made during Dickie's tenure. Last summer, the COC scored an international triumph with its double-bill staging of Bertolt Brecht's *Cats and Dogs* and Schostakovich's *Swan Lake* at the Edinburgh International Festival. Directed by Quebec City conductor Robert Lagace, the program received two top awards. The COC will perform the double bill this October at Australia's Melbourne International Festival of the Arts. According to Bradshaw, the Edinburgh success has generated an unprecedented amount of international interest in the COC. "Suddenly," he said in an interview, "we're the wisest sort of place to be working."

But at home, the COC is embarking on a period of budget-conscious retrenchment. The number of productions in the 1994-1995 season, which begins next September, will be reduced to six from this year's seven. The main costly current season includes two new COC productions and two new co-productions. In 1994-1995, the company will mount Puccini's *La Bohème*, Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* and the Shakespeare's *Cats and Dogs* (which includes COC premiere of Donizetti's *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*), sets and costumes will be rented from other companies. The COC expects to save enough in 1994-1995 to be able to mount a more break-even season the following year. It will present two new productions of its own—and is expected to return to Broadway with a fresh project directed by Lagace.

Dickie and Bradshaw had worked together before—at the prosperous and exceptionally well-stocked Glyndebourne Festival of

London. Five years ago, not long after Dickie became the COC's general director, he offered the position of COC music director to Bradshaw. Now, Bradshaw describes his former boss as "a great artistic leader" and points out that it was difficult for Dickie "to come from Glyndebourne to a company where you have to raise the money in a tough economic climate and realize that there do have to be certain sacrifices." Compensationally, Bradshaw was never happy working at this environment. "I'm personally, I am."

Born in the town of Rugby in central England and moved to nearby Northamptonshire, Bradshaw studied piano and organ intensively at London's Royal Academy of Music, but always knew that he wanted to conduct. He was modest conductor at the San Francisco Opera from 1977 to 1988, and has travelled widely as a guest conductor. After moving to Toronto in 1989 with his wife, Diana, a special-education teacher, and their two children, he demonstrated a commitment to new music and the promotion of young Canadian talent at the COC. His new appointment has prompted him to cut back on his guest appearances, but he will retain the post of COC music director and conduct half of the company's repertoire.

In his youth, Bradshaw studied with the unusually temperamental British conductor Sir Adrian Boult. He can remember hearing Boult say to the members of more than one major orchestra: "Gentlemen, I expect playing like that from the Royal College of Music—I thought that you were among your kind." Bradshaw's own style is less confrontational—usually. "The when he was in France a while ago, he had to work with an unusually uncooperative orchestra. I used civility, I used charm, I used flattery, I used every thing," he recalled. Frustrated, he leaped into singing. The musicians "suddenly started playing like angels." Bradshaw will need charm, civility and flattery a dash of Boultian bluster to guide the COC through the challenges of the next few years.

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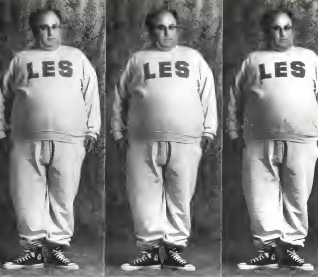
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FILMS



Shane (Jeff) Morrison, Grace (now breaking on a collision course with beauty) (Sharon Gless), and a baby (now breaking on a collision course with beauty) (Sharon Gless).

Eat your heart out

INTERSECTION
Directed by Mark Rydell

Sometimes it's hard to be a man—even if you are rich, successful and a straight shooter. In *Intersection*, Brooklyn's Richard Gere plays an architect who must choose between his lovely and talented wife (Sharon Stone) and his lovely and talented mistress (Julia Davis). And guess, this poor guy just cannot make up his mind. As a depiction of a sensitive man's uncertainties about love, career and family, *Intersection* appears to stretch the contemporary male solo. But as entertainment, it never really transcends its roots-at-the-mach level.

The story opens with a distressed, daydreaming Vincent speaking along a twisting mountain road in his vintage Lincoln. He rounds a corner and—look out—a tractor-trailer is heading straight for him. Fade to black. Vincent, it is revealed, has left his wife and his out-of-control 30-year-old daughter (Leah Marshall) to live with his sister, Olivia, a lonely journalist working for a big Vancouver magazine. But at a critical juncture in his new relationship—by and Olivia are about to build a house together—Vincent starts to have second thoughts. His wife, Sally, is a partner at his architectural firm, and his daughter needs his guidance. Olivia, meanwhile, casually pushes for more commitment. Slowly, almost

apologetically, the overtones make that long Vincent to his mistress with destiny as that lovely mountain road is revealed.

Filmed in and around Victoria and Vancouver last spring, *Intersection* is a stylish, campy—cinematographer: Vilmos Zsigmond has captured the West Coast landscape with breathtaking clarity. The scenes, however, do little to transcend their stereotypical roles. Stone, at a crossroads in her career after last year's dramatic thriller *Steel*, turns in a Joan Crawford-esque performance as a snooty ex queen—the wife who is her own rule in *Steel* (justified). London, Ont.-born Davis' scenes are not comfortable playing the mistress with a hint of old-on urban femme of her colleague singer in *Blue* (1984). Ultimately, the wife and mistress seem to be drawn more from male fantasy than from real life. Gere, meanwhile, turns in a convincing portrayal as a man who says at the right times but is in fact an emotional subject—a rule perfectly suited to Gere's comfortable good looks and limited expressiveness.

The foundation on which *Intersection* is built—sympathy for the troubled Vincent—is shaky at best. And as his wifeless over which women will be greeted with his attraction, the movie wavers between the modified and the macabre. Try as it might, *Intersection* never limns an off-colour course with beauty.

JOE CHIRLEY

And baby makes two

THE SNAPPER
Directed by Stephen Frears

Talk about *The Timeless*. Sharon Gless is a 30-year-old Dubliner, married and pregnant after a drunken encounter with a neighbor in a pub parking lot. What's worse, the neighbor is the obstetrician father of one of her friends. Sharon refuses to reveal the identity of the father, even as she tells her parents and few siblings about her condition. Instead, she invites an anonymous Spanish sailor and prepares to ride out the inevitable storms of disappointment. Based on Roddy Doyle's novel of the same name (the Irish author also wrote the screenplay), *The Snapper* transplants the world into the corner as the Carleys prepare for the arrival of Sharon's baby—her "snapper." Hilarious and touching, it is the season's most unlikely celebration of family values.

Director Stephen Frears translates the flavor and texture of Doyle's novel not only to the screen with accurate detail, but also to the screen with accurate detail. Most of the scenes are shot inside gritty close-ups of the Carleys' cramped domestic chaos alternate with scenes in a crowded pub, where Sharon and her friends gather to gossip (I'd tag the Englishman, Man, baby! I'd tag the man, again, a sea of them says of her baby). Outside, there are only bare, mental jobs or, worse, unemployment. But the characters' vitality, their endless joking and their affection for each other keep them going.

Tom Kitchener brings a convincing nature of romance, grief and warmth to her role as Sharon. But the film belongs to Colin Meaney. As Denise, Sharon's father, Meaney is an endearing, infectious combination of job lost and poverty, dead, as an ex-wife with a gun and a gun. At first, he is resigned to Sharon's noncommitment. But as rumors spread about the identity of the real father, Denise gives in to shame—and becomes increasingly violent. The scene in which Sharon prepares to move out—and a car in Denise's driveway—brilliantly uncovers the family dynamics of love, guilt, blood bond and manipulation.

Full of Dublin slang that comes probably, vulgarly and with a equal measure. The Snapper may offend a few. But after the usual warm-up, it's a real Irish film, a real Irish film, and cheer for the Carleys.

DAVID TURKIN

Behind the barricades

KANEHWATKÉ
275 YEARS OF RESISTANCE
(CBC, Jan. 31, 10 p.m.)

There is a moment of pure ferocity in Allan Okonsawo's film about the Oka crisis. It occurs late in the end of Kanehwatké, a two-hour National Film Board documentary about the 1990 Mohawk uprising in the pine forest on the outskirts of the little Quebec town of Oka. The 50-minute, an award-winning 65-year-old Algonquin native from Quebec, captures a bizarre encounter between a Canadian army major and a clutch of besieged Mohawk Warriors. The major is indignant and the Mohawks become as they trade insults and across towns, facing each other across roofs of gleaming razor wire. Despite the setting, the argument is banal. It concerns eggs—or rather, the precise identity of the culprit who hurled a few against the heavily armed

Back of an armed forces personnel carrier. It is an episode of sorts, a glimpse of the essential absurdity of the whole sorry affair that seized the attention of Canada—and the world—for 76 days in the summer and early fall of 1990. Okonsawo was present for most of that time, living with the Mohawks behind the barricades, sleeping in the sand under the pines, and often working without a crew and shooting her own footage on a video camera. The resulting documentary has picked up several international and domestic awards—including the one for Best Canadian Picture at last September's Festival of Festivals in Toronto—

A native film director puts Oka in context

and has won a coveted nomination to Robert Redford's Sundance Film Festival in Utah, where it is being screened this week.

The viewpoint is what distinguishes the NFB production, setting it apart from other efforts to reconstruct the Oka crisis. Written, directed and narrated by Okonsawo,



Scene from Kanehwatké: hooded protesters, Iqoyaké

herself, an NFB filmmaker for 35 years, the film draws its strength from the woman's intimate knowledge of her subject. Born in New Hanover, she grew up on the Odanak Reserve, northeast of Montreal. When she was nine, her parents moved to Timmins, where they were the only native family in town. Speaking little English and no French, Okonsawo learned the hard lessons about cultural isolation and racial discrimination at a very early age.

That experience illuminates the film, which is named after the Mohawk village near Oka. Kanehwatké is punctuated with revealing comments. There is, to cite only one of the more telling examples, an encounter between a harassed officer of the Sûreté du Québec and an angry resident couple, presumably natives. The francophone policeman and the English-speaking residents

shoot at each other in exasperation, neither understanding the other. In fact, in that of their child, the man and his fearful wife are arrested and manhandled into a police car.

In another scene, provincial cabinet minister John Gaudet, then in charge of Indian Affairs, reportedly accuses journalists that the authorities have guaranteed the natives unrestricted access to food and medical supplies. Okonsawo's camera is a different story. It tracks the progress of a Red Cross truck as it is held up for hours at a Sûreté roadblock and finally returned to a paralyzed nonnative farmer, who is told to hold the truck in his barn until further notice.

There are few heroes in Okonsawo's portrayal of the events that transfixed the country 7½ years ago. Ellen Gabriel, however, is one. The young Mohawk woman, thrown in as the role of unofficial representative for the natives, stands out as an eloquent defender of the Mohawk point of view. Another who comes across sympathetically is Robert Stodden, the grizzled Mohawk Warrior known as "Mad Jap." Stodden is repeatedly shown talking his calm presence and taking charge

rather to defuse dangerously overheated situations. Meanwhile, Miki Akim Tremblay, in command of the Royal 22nd Régiment's C Company, emerges in the film as cool and competent, a professional completely in charge of himself and his troops.

If there are any villains in the piece, Oka Mayor Jean Gauthier is a leading contender. But while Gauthier's scheme to expand a golf course ignited the immediate crisis, Okonsawo is careful to place the entire affair in a historical context. From the tale as the film is a thought-provoking reminder that the conflict did not begin at the summer of 1990 but, rather, centuries ago. A good part of the documentary is devoted to a detailed recapitulation of the broken promises, betrayals and double-dealing that gradually robbed the Mohawks of the land they once controlled and around the island of Montreal.

Okonsawo says that she made the film "to show what the Mohawk people were like and why they took the stand they did." In that, at least, she has succeeded. But whether her efforts will have any lasting effect remains to be seen. Jean Gauthier is still mayor of Oka, having won reelection two years ago. The provincial inquiry into the death of 16-year-old Michel Lemyre killed during the crisis is still under way. And the Mohawks at Kanehwatké are no closer to control over the pine forest than they were in 1990.

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A simple question that has no simple answer

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

Why doesn't anything work any more? We are trying to fly from Toronto to Vancouver. The route is 10 hours, but the last piece of the puzzle is missing: light delays all day. We blame Air Canada and are assured that nothing is wrong.

We go to the airport and the flight is delayed. Why? Because the last piece is missing and each piece must be replaced by track. How long will the delay be? Well, 30 minutes. The answer is 30. Then "indefinitely."

When we are finally loaded, the pilot informs us that the track, oh, only had half a load of fuel. We don't have enough on board to make it to Vancouver. We will have to stop in Winnipeg in search of more.

Is this another Galt's Gulch? The nervous mind flashes back a decade. An Air Canada jet from Montreal headed for Edmonton suddenly coughed and choked and ran out of fuel. It seems a miracle in Montreal couldn't figure out where and didn't fill up the tanks. Luckily the pilot had gliding as his hobby and, using those techniques, landed the huge and silent jet to an ill-abandoned runway he remembered left out in Galt's on Lake Winnipeg. He skidded to a stop, the nose undercarriage collapsed, with some casualties.

Why does nothing work any more? An international pilots' association awarded him a medal for his brilliant performance. And Air Canada suspended him because of the Montreal mishap.

I said to a pilot Air Canada told us in Winnipeg that they must bury their last piece deeper than in Toronto. "No," he said, "we just use tracks."

Why doesn't anything work any more? My friend Roy Peterson, whose distinction decorates his 144th each week, lives in West Vancouver and sends his anxiety to Mission in Toronto via a world-famous courier service. Last week, he delivered his package and the world-famous courier service shipped it all to Montreal.

Why do so many people not realize what



works? Every morning as a loyal taxpayer, I listen to CBC radio. When the weatherman delivers his bad news, the CBC host says: "Thank you very much." When the sports guy delivers the morning hockey scores and the latest hot diet on Tavis Harding, the CBC host says: "Thank you very much."

When a newspaper reporter gives his precious gossip to his city editor, the city editor doesn't say "Thank you very much." It's the reporter's job to produce the stuff. When the editor reads on the press to what used to be called the composing room, the chaps back there don't say "Thank you very much"—as if someone was doing them a favor. It's a job. Get on with it.

When politicians come on CBC Radio, the CBC host says "Thanks very much for doing this." For doing what? That's a politician's job, to communicate. When a ditch digger disturbs your sleep with a pickaxe, do

you go out when the pavement is driven and say "Thank you very much for doing that?" When Peter Jacquot gets a report from a correspondent in Bosnia or Somalia (who probably makes about \$150,000), he says: "Right. Right. Talk to you later." If he was back at the CBC when he started, I guess he'd think he got very much and has more and best wishes to his aunt.

Why doesn't anything work any more? It is now discovered that in the current cold snap more than one-third of the cars in Toronto that won't start have to be towed to a repair shop. Why? Because of the co-board computers that we supposed were to mean us into the future. This is progress?

Moving right along, all the brilliant scientists and politicians in Ontario somehow could not figure out that the cad were disappearing off Newfoundland. When they finally in a panic about down the cad fishery, they shovelled out \$687 million to the 30,000 fishermen and plant workers in Atlantic Canada who were deprived of their groceries.

It now turns out that cheques for some \$25 million were sent to people who had little or no connection to the fishery—including some who had already retired, were fishing illegally or weren't even in Canada, and some who were dead.

Why doesn't anything work any more? The such-for-general tells us that the Ministry government wasn't telling the truth in claiming that the cost of flying cabinet ministers and other VPs about the globe wasn't \$97.5 million for one year. The cost in fact was \$84 million to a government which had refused to give the watchdog access to its information on the expenses of its ministers.

The Ontario government has spent \$4.2 million just to count the number of congenitally deaf. A public inquiry into the massive blood scandal in which more than 1,000 Canadian haemophiles and blood transfusion patients were infected with the AIDS virus is about to begin. When's Ontario's Day?

Ottawa has doubled the staff and equipment needed to collect the Gauging and Sewerage Tax, but almost one-third of all companies and self-employed contractors filing are delinquent and owe the government more \$800 million. And Revenue Minister David Anderson, who tried to sue his own government for \$450,000, says he is going to crack down on tax evaders.

The mafia can't figure out how to kill 'er up, the cops can't find the wrong guy, the CBC finds people as if they were dumb chimp work and the government sends cheques to dead people. Feel better yet?

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